

President Barack Obama, accompanied by Alaska Gov. Bill Walker, steps off Air Force One after arriving at Elmendorf Air Force Base, Monday, Aug. 31, 2015, in Anchorage, Alaska. President Barack Obama opens a historic three-day trip to Alaska aimed at showing solidarity with a state often overlooked by Washington, while using its glorious but changing landscape as an urgent call to action on climate change.

(AP Photo/Andrew Harnik)
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Obama Opens Alaska Trip Driving Climate to Forefront

JOSH LEDERMAN
Associated Press

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)

— Barack Obama arrived in Alaska on Monday, where is set to become the first sitting U.S. president to visit the Arctic Circle as part of an effort to thrust climate change to the forefront of the global agenda.

During his three-day tour of Alaska, Obama planned to hike a glacier, converse with fishermen and tape a reality TV show with survivalist Bear Grylls — all part of a highly orchestrated White House campaign to illustrate how climate change has damaged the state's stunning landscape. The goal at each stop is to create powerful visuals that show real-world effects of climate change and drive home Obama's message that the crisis already has arrived.

After arriving mid-afternoon in Anchorage, Obama planned to meet with Alaska Natives before addressing a U.S.-sponsored summit on climate change and the Arctic. Later in the trip, Obama will travel north of the Arctic Circle when he visits Kotzebue — population 3,153 — to address the plight of Alaska Natives, who face dire economic conditions amid some of the worst effects of global warming.

"They don't get a lot of presidents in Kotzebue," Alaska Gov. Bill Walker quipped as he joined

Obama for the seven-hour flight from Washington.

Aboard Air Force One, the

politicians angry that Ohio native and former President William McKinley's

cus Obama hopes to concentrate on the need for drastic action to combat

gases square with other steps he's taken or allowed to expand energy production, including oil and gas. Environmental groups took particular offense at the administration's move to allow expanded drilling off Alaska's northwest coast — just a few weeks before coming to Alaska to preach on climate change.

White House press secretary Josh Earnest told reporters traveling with the president that Obama's all-of-the-above approach to energy aims to facilitate the longer-term transition to cleaner, renewable fuels. "Alaska is a place where that approach is on display," Earnest said.

Even Alaska Natives, who have echoed Obama's warnings about environmental changes, have urged him to allow more oil and gas to be sucked out of Alaska's soil and waters. Alaska faces a roughly \$3.5 billion deficit this year as a result of falling oil prices, forcing state budget cuts that have wreaked havoc on rural services.

"History has shown us that the responsible energy development which is the lifeblood of our economy can exist in tandem with, and significantly enhance, our traditional way of life," leaders of the Arctic Slope Regional Corporation, which represents Inupiat Eskimo shareholders, wrote Monday in a letter to Obama. □



A National Park Service map depicting the newly renamed Denali is shown on Monday, Aug. 31, 2015, aboard Air Force One before a visit to Anchorage, Alaska. President Barack Obama will officially change the name of America's highest mountain from its current name, Mount McKinley, to Denali. Obama opens a historic three-day trip to Alaska aimed at showing solidarity with a state often overlooked by Washington, while using its glorious but changing landscape as an urgent call to action on climate change.

(AP Photo/Andrew Harnik)

White House unveiled a new National Park Service map bearing the name Denali where Mount McKinley used to be.

As a prelude to the trip, Obama announced his administration was renaming the tallest mountain in North America and restoring its traditional Athabascan name, a move that drew applause from Alaska's leaders but harsh condemnations from Ohio

name will be erased from the famed peak.

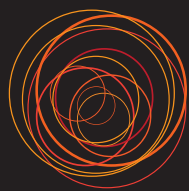
"You just don't go and do something like that," said Ohio Gov. John Kasich, a Republican presidential candidate.

As he traverses Alaska this week, Obama has two audiences in mind: Alaskans, who are hungry for more energy development to boost the state's sagging oil revenues, and the broader public, whose fo-

global warming, including a climate treaty that Obama hopes will help solidify his environmental legacy.

Whether Obama can successfully navigate those two competing interests — energy and the environment — is the prevailing question of his trip.

The president has struggled to explain how his dire warnings and call to action to cut greenhouse



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US legal experts see no criminal trouble for Clinton so far



Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Rodham Clinton speaks in Cleveland. Experts in U.S. government secrecy law see almost no possibility of criminal action against Democratic presidential contender Hillary Clinton in connection with now-classified information sent over unsecure email while she was secretary of state.

(AP Photo/David Richard)

KEN DILANIAN

AP Intelligence Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Experts in U.S. government secrecy law see almost no possibility of criminal action against Democratic presidential contender Hillary Clinton or her top aides in connection with now-classified information sent

over unsecure email while she was secretary of state, based on the public evidence thus far.

Some Republicans, including leading presidential candidate Donald Trump, have called Clinton's actions criminal and compared her situation to that of David Petraeus, the for-

mer CIA director who was prosecuted after giving top secret information to his paramour. Others have cited the case of another past CIA chief, John Deutch, who took highly classified material home.

But in both of those cases, no one disputed that the information was highly classi-

fied and in many cases top secret. Petraeus pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor; Deutch was pardoned by President Bill Clinton.

By contrast, there is no evidence of emails stored in Hillary Clinton's private server bearing classified markings. State Department officials say they don't believe that emails she sent or received included material classified at the time. And even if other government officials dispute that assertion, it is extremely difficult to prove anyone knowingly mishandled secrets.

"How can you be on notice if there are no markings?" said Leslie McAadoo, a lawyer who frequently handles security-clearance cases.

Clinton's critics have focused on the unusual, home-brew email server Clinton used while in office and suggested that she should have known that secrets were improperly coursing through an unsecure system, leaving them easily hackable for foreign intelligence agencies. But to prove a crime, the government would have to demonstrate that Clinton or aides knew they were mishandling the information — not that she should have known.

A case would be possible if material emerges that is so sensitive Clinton must have known it was highly classified, whether marked or not, McAadoo said.

But no such email has surfaced. And among the thousands of documents made public, nothing appears near the magnitude of the Top Secret material Petraeus and Deutch mishandled.

Trump, last week, argued differently, saying Petraeus' case involved "far less important documents." Clinton's documents, he told Fox News, "were more highly secret, they were more important, there were more of them. It's really General Petraeus on steroids."

Petraeus, a married former four-star general who headed the CIA from 2011-2012, admitted he gave his biographer and lover, Paula Broadwell, journals containing Top Secret information. These included "the identifies of covert officers, war strategy, intelligence capabilities and mechanisms, diplomatic discussions, quotes and deliberative discussions from high-level National Security Council meetings and discussions with the president of the United States," according to court documents.

Petraeus also admitted lying to the FBI, while his emails showed he knew the journals contained highly classified information.

He pleaded guilty to one count of unauthorized removal and retention of classified material, a misdemeanor. Though eligible for up to one year in prison, he was sentenced to two years' probation and a \$100,000 fine. □

Trump video goes after Bush on immigration

T. BEAUMONT

Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP)

— Billionaire businessman Donald Trump is going after Republican presidential rival Jeb Bush with a new campaign video about immigration.

Trump currently leads the polls in the primary race, despite much of the Republican establishment

backing Bush, who has so far failed to excite voters.

In the video, Bush is shown saying in a 2014 interview that illegal immigration is "not a felony" but rather an "act of love." The video has pictures of three men who were in the country illegally and have been charged or convicted in killings.

The Trump campaign's short video, posted on In-

stagram, concludes with block letters on a black screen saying: "Forget love. It's time to get tough."

In 2014, Bush said illegal immigration is a crime for which people should pay a price. But he said no one should be surprised that people cross the border to seek a better life for families they love. Trump has made a strict stand on immigra-

tion the cornerstone of his insurgent campaign, while Bush has said repeatedly that a path to permanent legal status for immigrants in the country illegally could ignite the slow-recovering economy. The Bush campaign responded to the latest slap from Trump by calling attention to the billionaire's past political donations to Democrats. □

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White House offended by attacks on Jews who back Iran deal

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama said people who attack Jews who support the Iran nuclear deal are like African-Americans who differ with him on policy and then conclude he's "not black enough."

Obama, in an interview with the Jewish newspaper "Forward," was asked whether it hurt him personally when people say he's anti-Semitic.

"Oh, of course," Obama said. "And there's not a smidgeon of evidence for it, other than the fact that there have been times when I've disagreed with a particular Israeli government's position on a particular issue."

The president added, though, that he's "probably more offended when I hear members of my administration who themselves are Jewish being attacked. You saw this historically sometimes in the African-American community, where there's a difference on policy and somebody starts talking about, 'Well, you're not black enough,' or 'You're selling out.' And

that, I think, is always a dangerous place to go."

Obama didn't mention any specific critics or targets by name.

Asked to whom the president was referring, White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest on Monday mentioned former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee's charge that the nuclear deal was like "marching the Israelis to the door of the oven," a reference to the Holocaust. Earnest added: "It's certainly not the only example of the kind of political rhetoric that certainly the president and others find objectionable."

Obama's Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew, who is Jewish, was heckled this summer at a Jewish-themed conference in New York when he defended the nuclear deal and spoke of the administration's support for Israel.

Obama, in the "Forward" interview, said that while those who care about Israel have an obligation to be honest about what they think, "you don't win the debate by suggesting



White House press secretary Josh Earnest speaks during the daily news briefing at the White House. President Barack Obama said people who attack Jews who support the Iran nuclear deal are like African-Americans who differ with him on policy and then conclude he's "not black enough."

(AP Photo/Andrew Harnik)

that the other person has not just consistent with fair bad motives. That's, I think, play; I think it's consistent

with the best of the Jewish tradition."

Secretary of State John Kerry, the chief U.S. diplomat in the negotiations with Iran, is to make a speech in Philadelphia on Wednesday on the importance of the agreement to U.S. national security, State Department spokesman Mark Toner said Monday.

On a lighter note, Obama was asked about his bagel of choice.

He described himself as "always a big poppy seed guy." As for toppings, he added: "lox and capers OK, but generally just your basic schmear," referring to a smear of cream cheese.

The interview was conducted Friday, and released Monday. □

Reckoning near for Kentucky clerk resisting same-sex marriage ruling

CLAIRE GALOFARO
Associated Press
MOREHEAD, Kentucky (AP) — A court-imposed stay has expired for a Kentucky county clerk who defied a judge's order to issue same-sex marriage licenses.

Unless the nation's highest court intervenes on her behalf, Rowan County Clerk Kim Davis on Tuesday will have to choose whether to issue marriage licenses, defying her Christian conviction, or continue defying a federal judge who could fine her or

send her to jail.

Mat Staver, a lawyer representing Davis, said "she's going to have to think and pray about her decision overnight."

Davis stopped issuing marriage licenses after the U.S. Supreme Court legalized gay marriage across the nation. Four couples sued her.

A federal judge ordered her to issue the licenses, and an appeals court upheld that decision. Her lawyers appealed to the Supreme Court on Friday. □

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Kansas man sentenced to 20 years for airport bomb plot

ROXANA HEGEMAN
Associated Press

WICHITA, Kansas (AP) — A Kansas man who plotted a suicide bomb attack aimed at causing "maximum carnage" at a Wichita airport was sentenced on Monday to 20 years in prison.

Terry L. Loewen apologized to his family and thanked his attorneys before U.S. District Judge Monti Belot imposed the proposed

sentence that came with the plea deal. Loewen stared straight ahead and showed no emotion as the judge sentenced him.

The 60-year-old Wichita man pleaded guilty in June to attempting to use a weapon of mass destruction.

"Here in the heartland, terrorism will never shake our faith in the things this country stands for — free-

dom, fairness and opportunity," U.S. Attorney Barry Grissom said afterward in a news release.

"We won't give way to those who would inflict violence on their fellow citizens."

Loewen made a brief courtroom statement in which he apologized to his wife and his two sons and his extended family.

"I love you all and I real-

ize the pain and suffering I caused you is enormous ... I do not ask for forgiveness because I deserve none," he said.

Prosecutors told the court that the government believed the proposed 20-year sentence was appropriate given Loewen's age and health condition.

His attorney, Tim Henry, asked Belot to recommend Loewen be incarcerated in

a federal prison as close to his family as possible, adding he has been a "model inmate" in jail and does not need to be in a maximum security prison.

Loewen came to the attention of the FBI in late May 2013, when he became a Facebook friend of an individual who regularly posted information supporting violent jihad, or holy war, court documents show. □

Murder charge dropped against Irish nanny in US girl's death

DENISE LAVOIE
AP Legal Affairs Writer

BOSTON (AP) — A murder charge has been dropped against an Irish nanny accused of killing a 1-year-old girl in her care after a state medical examiner reversed a finding that the child's death was a homicide caused by shaken baby syndrome, prosecutors announced Monday.

Aisling Brady McCarthy, 37, was charged with killing Rehma Sabir in Cambridge in 2013. McCarthy insisted she was innocent and her lawyers vigorously challenged the medical examiner's findings that Rehma died of complications of blunt-force head injuries.

In a written statement, Middlesex District Attorney Marian Ryan announced that the murder charge was dropped because the medical examiner issued an amended ruling chang-



Aisling Brady McCarthy leaves court proceedings at Middlesex Superior Court in Woburn, Mass. Middlesex District Attorney Marian Ryan announced Monday, Aug. 31, 2015, that the murder charge against the Irish nanny had been dropped.

(Keith Bedford/The Boston Globe via AP)

ing the manner of death to "undetermined."

Ryan said the medical examiner found Rehma had past medical issues and may have had some type of undiagnosed disorder.

"Based on an assessment

of the present state of the evidence, including the amended ruling from the Medical Examiner who performed the autopsy, the Commonwealth cannot meet its burden of proof," Ryan said.

McCarthy came to the U.S. about 13 years ago under a visa waiver program that entitled her to stay 90 days. She has been living illegally in the United States. It was not immediately clear if she would be deported. Her lawyers did not return calls seeking comment, but they planned a late afternoon news conference.

In the new ruling, the medical examiner said the decision to change the cause and manner of death came after additional materials were reviewed, including expert witness reports from both the defense and prosecution, additional transcripts of police interviews, transcripts of grand jury testimony, additional medical records and additional lab testing related to the girl's death.

"These additional materials put forth several different and often conflicting opin-

ions about the cause of Rehma's death," the report states, according to excerpts contained in Ryan's statement.

"In particular the overall state of Rehma's health and her past medical issues raise the possibility that she had some type of disorder that was not able to be completely diagnosed prior to her death," the report states.

The report said that Rehma had a history of bruising and that she might have been prone to easy bleeding with relatively minor trauma. "Given these uncertainties, I am no longer convinced that the subdural hemorrhage in this case could only have been caused by abusive/inflicted head trauma, and I can no longer rule the manner of death as a homicide," the medical examiner wrote in the report. □

Supremacist convicted of killing 3 at US Jewish sites

H. HOLLINGSWORTH
Associated Press

OLATHE, Kansas (AP) — The man who admitted killing three people at two suburban Kansas City Jewish sites gave jurors a Nazi salute Monday after they convicted him of murder and other charges for the shootings,

which he said would allow him to "die a martyr."

It took the jury of seven men and five women just over two hours to find Frazier Glenn Miller guilty of one count of capital murder, three counts of attempted murder and assault and weapons charges.

After the verdict was announced, Miller, 74, said: "The fat lady just sang." As jurors were filing out of the courtroom, he raised his right arm in the Nazi salute and told them: "You probably won't sleep tonight." The judge reminded Miller that the same jury will

decide his sentence. He could get the death penalty. The sentencing proceedings were expected to begin Tuesday. During the prosecution's closing, District Attorney Steve Howe cited a "mountain of evidence" against Miller, who is charged with capi-

tal murder in the April 2014 shootings at two Jewish sites in Overland Park, Kansas. Although he has admitted to killing the three people, he has pleaded not guilty, saying it was his duty to stop genocide against the white race. None of the victims was Jewish. □



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US Financial Front:

Wal-Mart cutting back on hours for workers at some stores

NEW YORK (AP) — Wal-Mart says it is asking some stores to schedule workers for fewer hours, although it says the directive is only being given to stores that are assigning more hours than they were expected to.

The world's largest retailer said the instructions apply only to a small number of its 4,500 U.S. locations that are scheduling workers for more hours than expected. Wal-Mart said Monday it spoke to store managers about controlling costs earlier this month at a holiday-season planning meeting. Managers who have been scheduling workers for too many hours were reminded to schedule closer to their allotted hours.

"Managing hours is a routine part of running a sustainable operation, and in select number of stores, it requires keeping those hours to what was originally budgeted," Wal-Mart said. Wal-Mart's second-quarter profit fell 15 percent, partly because of pay raises, efforts to overhaul its stores, and investments in its online operations. The changes did help its sales, however.

The Bentonville, Arkansas-based company raised its minimum wage to \$9 an hour in April and plans to raise it to \$10 an hour by February.

As of Jan. 31, Wal-Mart had about 1.4 million employees in the U.S.

It did not say how many of them might be working fewer hours.

The move to trim some employees' hours shows the wage increase was only a public relations move, said Jess Levin, a spokeswoman with the United Food & Commercial Workers International Union. Workers are having their hours cut so Wal-Mart can "pad its bottom line," she said.

Wal-Mart's low-income shoppers are still struggling as the U.S. economy goes through a sluggish recovery, though lower gas prices are helping somewhat. The company also faces increasing competition from online king Amazon.com and from dollar stores, which are pulling in shoppers seeking low prices and convenience.

Shares of Wal-Mart Stores Inc. slipped 21 cents to \$64.73 on Monday. □

Jeep recalling 206,668 Cherokee SUVs on windshield wiper defect

DETROIT (AP) — Fiat Chrysler is recalling 206,668 Jeep Cherokee SUVs because the windshield wipers can stop working unexpectedly.

Cherokees from the 2014 model year are affected. There are 158,671 in the U.S., 18,366 in Canada and 3,582 in Mexico. The rest were sold outside North America.

Fiat Chrysler says static buildup may occur if the wipers are used when it's dry. Static buildup can affect the module that powers the wipers and potentially disable them.

The company says it's not aware of any accidents or injuries related to the issue. Customers will be notified and dealers will repair the vehicles for free. □



This photo shows a sign outside a Wal-mart store in Duarte, California.

(AP Photo/Damian Dovarganes)

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Grenade explodes during Ukraine clashes; 1 officer killed



Flags of the of nationalist Svoboda (Freedom) party seen in the background as police clash with protesters, after a vote to give greater powers to the east in front of the Parliament, in Kiev, Ukraine, Monday, Aug. 31, 2015. (AP Photo/Efrem Lukatsky)

EFREM LUKATSKY
YURAS KARMANAU
Associated Press
KIEV, Ukraine (AP) — As lawmakers took up a measure to give greater powers to separatists in eastern Ukraine, nationalist protesters clashed with police outside parliament on Monday, and the Interior Ministry said one officer was killed in a gre-

nade blast and more than 100 were wounded. It was the worst violence in the capital since the government took power in February 2014. The decentralization of power was a condition demanded by Russia for a truce signed in Minsk in February aimed at ending the fighting between Ukrainian government

troops and Russia-backed separatists that has left more than 6,800 dead since April 2014. But Ukrainian nationalists strongly oppose changing the constitution, saying that would threaten the country's sovereignty and independence. In a televised address, Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko called de-

centralization "a difficult but a logical step toward peace," and insisted that it would not grant autonomy to the rebels in Donetsk and Luhansk. The measure won preliminary approval on Monday with 265 deputies in the 450-seat parliament voting for it. But three parties that are part of the majority coalition in parliament refused to give their support, showing the difficulty that Poroshenko faces even within his own pro-Western camp in fulfilling the peace agreement. When the decentralization bill comes up for final approval, he will need to get at least 300 votes as required for amending the constitution. "This is not a road to peace and not a road to decentralization," said the leader of one of those dissenting parties, former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko. "This is the diametrically opposite process, which will lead to the loss of new territories." The officer who was killed in the clashes on Mon-

day was a 25-year-old conscript, Interior Minister Arsen Avakov told reporters. He said 122 people were hospitalized — most of them officers, but also some Ukrainian journalists and two French reporters. No injuries were reported among the several hundred protesters, including 100 die-hard activists, most of whom are members of Svoboda, a nationalist party that holds only a handful of seats in parliament. The protesters were carrying sticks and truncheons. Some of them were masked. Avakov said that about 30 people have been detained, including the protester who threw the grenade, who he identified as a Svoboda member who fought in the east in one of the volunteer battalions that are loosely controlled by the government. Poroshenko described the violence outside parliament as a "stab in the back" and pledged to prosecute "all political leaders" who were behind the clashes. □

Austria inspects trucks for migrants, creates 18-mile backup

PABLO GORONDI
Associated Press
BUDAPEST, Hungary (AP) — Austria stepped up vehicle inspections Monday at its Hungarian border after 71 migrants apparently suffocated in a truck, creating a huge traffic jam on the main Budapest-Vienna highway. In addition to the gridlock at the Hegyeshalom border crossing — about a 30-kilometer (18 1/2-mile) backup

at its peak — traffic was slower than usual at other spots along the Hungary-Austria border, the traffic monitoring firm Utinform reported. Traffic appeared to be flowing fairly smoothly by late afternoon and Austrian Interior Ministry spokesman Karl-Heinz Grundboeck said they would continue to conduct "spot checks" of vehicles at all main border crossings. At Budapest's Keleti train

terminal, meanwhile, hundreds of migrants, many saying they were from Syria, boarding trains headed west to Austria and Germany, without apparent police intervention. In past months, Hungarian police, sometimes acting with colleagues from Germany and Austria, often removed migrants without the necessary travel documents from the trains. On Monday afternoon,

there were long lines of migrants at the terminal's ticket windows and police said a statement on the situation there would be forthcoming. Two of the express trains that left Budapest, however, were stranded on the Austro-Hungarian border after the Austrian Federal Railways refused to allow them to proceed into Austria, citing "overcrowding." Austrian police spokesman

Roman Hahslinger said some of those on the trains subsequently disembarked and continued into Austria with regional trains. A train with around 400 migrants from Budapest arrived in Germany on Monday evening, first stopping in the southern Bavarian city of Rosenheim where some were offloaded, while others then carried on to Munich, the dpa news agency reported. □



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Massive gas find promises to ease Egypt's fuel crisis



Eni CEO Claudio Descalzi, third left, and his delegation meet with Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi, center, and an Egyptian delegation, in Cairo, Egypt.

(MEAN via AP)

BRIAN ROHAN

Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — The discovery of a huge gas field off Egypt's coast promises to ease a long-running fuel crisis and boost the economy after years of unrest, but it will take years to develop and won't bring Gulf-style riches to the Arab world's most populous country, experts said Monday. The new "supergiant" off-

shore Zohr field, revealed a day earlier by Italy's Eni SpA and billed as the "largest-ever" found in the Mediterranean Sea, could alleviate Egypt's need for gas imports in the coming years, when a booming population will lead to a spike in domestic demand. The latest discovery — potentially 30 trillion cubic feet of gas — represents about half of Egypt's cur-

rent needs, and would add to its current 65 trillion cubic feet, cut its trade deficit and bring in tax revenue when it comes online in some five years, said Angus Blair of investment advisory firm Signet. "It's a very useful positive economic factor in Egypt," he said. "Obviously it will help President (Abdel-Fattah) el-Sissi and the government, but to look at it very practically, and eco-

nomically, it has just come at a very good time."

Egypt is making a gradual economic recovery from the years of chaos that followed the 2011 uprising. Rolling power cuts have been a regular feature of life since the overthrow of President Hosni Mubarak, as the country was ruled successively by the military, an Islamist president and then a military-backed

government. However, this summer Cairo was largely spared the outages. El-Sissi has staked his legitimacy on fixing the economy, and has made energy projects a priority. Last March, authorities signed a \$4.6 billion contract with Germany's Siemens AG to build a new 4.4-gigawatt power plant in southern Egypt and generate 2 gigawatts of wind power. □

Yemeni rebels raid dozens of homes of opponents in Sanaa

AHMED AL-HAJ

Associated Press

SANAA, Yemen (AP) — Shiite rebels in Yemen's capital have raided dozens of homes of political opponents and local NGO workers, claiming they are affiliated with the Islamic State group and al-Qaida, security officials said Monday. The officials, who are neutral in a conflict that has splintered the security forces, said the raids began a day earlier. Pro-government forces backed by Saudi-led airstrikes have driven the rebels, known as Houthis, from much of the country's south in recent weeks, but the rebels still hold the capital, Sanaa, which they seized nearly a year ago. The officials said that last

week the Houthis detained at least 20 people, one of whom works for the U.N., near the capital's presidential palace. Houthi officials could not immediately be reached for comment. Also Monday, mortar rounds fired by the rebels killed four civilians and wounded six in Yemen's third largest city of Taiz, medical officials and witnesses said. The exiled Yemeni government in Saudi Arabia declared Taiz a disaster zone last week. Since then, the city's al-Radwah hospital has stopped admitting patients due to a severe lack of medical resources, officials at the hospital told the Associated Press, leaving Taiz with only six working hospitals out of 21. □



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Afghan airfields built for war seen as economic hubs

LYNNE O'DONNELL

Associated Press

KANDAHAR AIR FIELD, Afghanistan (AP) — It is a striking vision for a country torn to pieces by war and jihadi insurrection: a series of airports, built by NATO to fight the Taliban, are being handed over to the Afghan government in a civil aviation upgrade that optimists hope will fuel not only regional trade but even tourism.

The eight airfields, worth an estimated \$2 billion, are scattered around a landlocked and mountainous land whose lack of rail transport or decent roads makes almost every intercity journey a perilous adventure — even without factoring in attacks from Taliban militants.

Ex-lawmaker Mohammad Daud Sultanzoy, who is overseeing the project for the government, said the airfields — self-contained cities that housed thousands of foreign troops who are now pulling out — will amount to a latter-day “Silk Road” that “will connect Afghanistan internally and to South Asia and Central Asia, and beyond.”

The billions of people living in Asia and the Middle East “can constitute a huge number of tourists and related other activities: cargo, passenger and export/import,” Sultanzoy said. Pessimists will have little trouble imagining the Taliban trying to shoot down planes as they land, but officials say the militants do not currently have that ability, making air travel a reasonable and safe option.

U.S. Maj. Gen. Todd Semonite, who oversees \$5 billion in funding to Afghanistan's security sector, said the decision to

transfer rather than close the airfields was made in conjunction with President Ashraf Ghani's government after he took power last year, in the belief they could help “jump start the economy.”

Military teams are upgrading them ahead of an international roadshow or-

existing fields, said Qasim Rahimi, spokesman for the Civil Aviation Authority of Afghanistan, itself a new operation. He said that with the establishment of the CAAA, regulation and service have improved dramatically, and that change has fueled a leap in both passenger numbers and

of the year. The CAAA has expressed confidence it will be ready to take on the responsibility starting in January.

Corruption is another issue. “Corruption will increase if these airports are under the control of the government, and the government does not have the capacity to



Mohammad Daud Sultanzoy, a former lawmaker overseeing the handover of military airports for the Afghan government, speaks during an interview with the Associated Press in Kabul, Afghanistan. A series of airports, built by NATO to fight the Taliban, are being handed over to the Afghan government in a civil aviation upgrade that optimists hope will fuel not only regional trade but even tourism.

(AP Photo/Rahmat Gul)

ganized by the Afghan and U.S. governments due to be held in Dubai next month.

Under an agreement with the United States, only the top-drawer facilities are being transferred, while small, remote military bases and airfields are being dismantled.

Afghanistan has an aviation infrastructure in place already, but it is rickety. Many of the country's 27 airports — four of them international — are little more than a shack at the end of a tarmac.

About 130 domestic and international flights land and take off weekly in these

revenues. Up to 45,000 passengers now fly domestically each month, already a sharp rise compared to 12,000 monthly in 2013. The sector generated \$2 billion in revenue last year, and Rahimi estimates a 25-percent rise this year.

Challenges aplenty stand in the way of further progress.

One is the country's inexperience with air traffic control. Afghanistan will take over air traffic control starting in 2016; the U.S. government ended its contract in June after controlling Afghan air space since 2001, and Japan's government will run it to the end

run these airports,” said former Transport and Civil Aviation Minister Daoud Ali Najafi.

He also cited a lack of trained staff, as many who had been trained had left the industry for higher incomes in the private sector. Privatization of the new fields will be key, he said.

Among the modern airports on offer is one at Kandahar in the south, with a 20-kilometer (12-mile) perimeter. At the height of the Afghan war, in 2009-2010, Kandahar Air Field was one of the world's busiest in terms of frequency, with an aircraft taking off or landing every minute. □

Indian scholar who criticized idol worship murdered at home

KATY DAIGLE

Associated Press

NEW DELHI (AP) — Following a knock at his front door, an Indian scholar greeted two unidentified visitors and was shot in the head and the chest, becoming the third critic of religious superstition to be killed in the country in three years. The attack on Malleshappa M. Kalburgi sent a chill through Indian civil society, stoking worries about religious extremism and intolerance and prompting an outpouring of condemnation as the 77-year-old author and academic was cremated Monday in his hometown of Dharwad, in the southern Indian state of Karnataka.

“This incident should not have happened. It is highly condemnable,” Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah told reporters.

Authorities are searching for two men who according to Kalburgi's daughter arrived on a motorcycle at their home Sunday, knocked on the door and fired two shots that killed her father, Inspector S.S. Hiremath said. He declined to give further details about the attack.

Police are investigating whether Kalburgi's murder is connected to death threats he received last year from angry right-wing Hindu groups after he criticized idol worship and superstitious beliefs by Hindus. He was provided police security after the threats but it was removed about two weeks ago at the scholar's request, police said. The attack was widely condemned.

“Everyone has the right to express his opinion,” actor and director Girish Karnad said. “If this grows in Karnataka, we are in trouble.” □



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Japan seeks biggest-ever defense budget amid China concerns



Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, center, stands in front of a mock-up of the F-35 fighter jet at Hyakuri Air Base, north of Tokyo. Japan's Defense Ministry endorsed a 5.1 trillion yen (\$42 billion) budget request Monday, Aug. 31, 2015, up 2.2 percent from this year.

(AP Photo/Eugene Hoshiko)

MARI YAMAGUCHI

Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — Japan's Defense Ministry wants to buy an advanced Aegis radar-equipped destroyer and more F-35 fighters under its largest-ever budget to bolster the defense of southern islands amid a territorial dispute with China.

The ministry endorsed a 5.1 trillion yen (\$42 billion) budget request Monday for the year beginning next April, up 2.2 percent from this year. It would be the fourth annual increase under Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, who took office in December 2012 and ended 10 years of defense budget

cuts.

Monday was the deadline for all ministries to submit budget requests to the Finance Ministry. The total budget requests for fiscal 2016 exceeded 102 trillion yen (\$840 billion), also a record high, according to public broadcaster NHK. The defense budget was the third largest after those from the health and welfare ministry and the transportation ministry, it said.

Abe's government says Japan needs to bolster its military role amid China's growing territorial assertiveness and the ris-

ing risk of terrorist attacks. Parliament is expected to approve a set of contentious bills to expand Japan's military role by late September. The budget increase results largely from proposed purchases of new equipment, including 17 surveillance helicopters, six F-35 fighters and three advanced "Global Hawk" drones. The construction of a Soryu-class submarine is also planned to bolster island defense and surveillance. Soryu submarines are among the world's largest, and Japan hopes to sell some to Australia

to replace the country's fleet of aging Collins-class submarines. The budget request also includes the cost of planned new troop deployments on two southern islands, Amami Oshima and Miyako. The ministry also requested funds to enhance information gathering by posting intelligence officials in three new locations, Jordan, United Arab Emirates and Mongolia. The requests are based on new defense guidelines allowing Japan's military a larger role amid tensions over China's growing military might. □

Police seek 2 new suspects in Bangkok bombing probe

N. ANUSONDISAI

GRANT PECK

Associated Press

BANGKOK (AP) — Thai police issued arrest warrants Monday for two more suspects, a Thai woman and a foreign man of unknown nationality, as part of a widening investigation that yielded its first arrest over the weekend in connection with a deadly bombing in Bangkok two weeks ago.

National police spokesman Prawuth Thavornsiri said he was certain the two were part of a group responsible for the Aug. 17 blast at the Erawan Shrine in central Bangkok that killed 20 people, more than half of them foreigners.

In a televised announce-

ment on Monday, Prawuth displayed a photograph of the woman's Thai identification card showing a young woman in a black headscarf, and a sketch of the man. He later said police were asking for additional arrest warrants.

Police said Monday evening that relatives of the woman, identified as 26-year-old Wanna Suan-sun, said they believe she is in Turkey.

The developments came after police arrested a man in an apartment in Bangkok's outskirts on Saturday and seized bomb-making equipment that included detonators, ball bearings and a metal pipe that could serve as a bomb casing. □

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Report: Colombia collecting bulk data without warrants

J. GOODMAN
Associated Press

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) — Intelligence agencies in Colombia have been building robust tools to automatically collect vast amounts of data without judicial warrants and in defiance of a pledge to

lance technologies as used by police and state security agencies in Colombia. One tool developed is capable of monitoring 3G phone cell and trunk lines carrying voice and data communications for the whole country, according to the report.

The report doesn't say how the technology was used but such mass, automated collection of data isn't explicitly authorized under Colombian law, according to the group, which based its findings on purchase orders and documents, many never seen before,

regarding surveillance tactics is with Congress, which is tasked with overseeing intelligence agencies.

Colombia's constitution guarantees citizens' right to private communications and all interceptions must have a judicial warrant. Colombia's chief prosecutor's office maintains with law enforcement a separate, more-targeted surveillance system, called Esperanza, for that very purpose. But Privacy International said inter-agency rivalries, a deep-seated culture of spying, and legal loopholes in a recently revamped intelligence law that allows for monitoring of the electro-magnetic spectrum for national security purposes has opened the door to gathering massive amounts of personal data on Colombians' private communications.

Much of the intelligence-gathering technology was developed with the U.S., which has provided billions of dollars in cash, training and equipment to Colombia over the past 15 years. Surveillance technology and direct assistance by the DEA and CIA have been instrumental in the arrest of cocaine kingpins and a key weapon in Colombia's fight against the leftist Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, as evidenced by the interception of phone calls that located and led to the killing of the guerrillas' top commander, alias Alfonso Cano, in a 2011 military raid. □

LATIN BRIEFS

Maduro charges Colombia plotting his assassination

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP)

— Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro is accusing enemies in Colombia of trying to assassinate him as both countries prepare to spar at the Organization of American States over an increasingly tense border dispute.

Maduro said during a visit to Vietnam that the conspiracy has the consent of Colombia's government. He didn't present any evidence to back the claim but said he would soon. Maduro and his Colombian counterpart Juan Manuel Santos have been trading barbs ever since last week's expulsion of more than 1,000 Colombians living illegally in Venezuela. Maduro accuses the migrants of being behind a wave of crime and smuggling along the border. □

Peru's president enacts law to gun down drug planes

LIMA, Peru (AP)

— Peru's president has enacted a law that authorizes military planes to shoot down suspected drug flights. Peru halted shoot-downs after 35-year-old U.S. missionary Veronica Bowers and her infant daughter died in a 2001 attack on a plane wrongly identified as carrying drugs.

Washington earlier had supported the policy, but Peruvian officials say the U.S. opposed restoring it. Under the new law, military planes will first warn suspected drug flights and warn them to land.

Neighboring drug-producing and transit nations already permit planes suspected of carrying drugs to be shot down. But with the exception of Venezuela and Honduras, such events have been rare in recent years. Peru became the world's No. 1 cocaine producer in 2012 and about half those drugs have been flown to Bolivia. □



Former President Alvaro Uribe, now a senator, addresses demonstrators in Bogota, Colombia. Intelligence agencies in Colombia have been building robust tools to automatically collect vast amounts of data without judicial warrants, according to a new report by Privacy International. Some elite intelligence units were among those found to be illegally spying on Supreme Court justices, journalists and political opponents of hardliner Uribe.

(AP Photo/Fernando Vergara)

better protect privacy following a series of domestic spying scandals, according to a new report by Privacy International.

The report published Monday by the London-based advocacy group provides a comprehensive look at the reach and questionable oversight of surveil-

The system, called Integrated Record System, was built by police intelligence starting in 2005 and had the capacity of collecting 100 million cell data and 20 million text message records per day without service providers' knowledge, according to the report's authors.

and confidential testimony by people working in Colombia's vast surveillance industry.

General Rodolfo Palomino, head of Colombia's police, declined to comment on the report when contacted by The Associated Press. He said the proper forum to discuss sensitive issues

Guatemalan president says he'll face due process

GUATEMALA CITY (AP) — The embattled president of Guatemala said Monday that a corruption scandal shaking his administration is not reason enough to postpone national elections set for this weekend.

Otto Perez Molina told reporters Monday that he would not interfere with legal proceedings against him and that he understands protests calling for his resignation.

But the president said postponing Sunday's election would be a huge setback for the country and "a seri-

ous violation of the constitution." Postponement would be "a step backward, that could set our country back 30 years," he said, in apparent reference to the country's war-torn years in the 1980s.

Guatemala's government has been weakened by a customs fraud scandal that already has seen his former vice president jailed and has forced much of his cabinet to resign. A legislative commission on Saturday urged congress to lift the president's immunity from prosecution.

The process against Perez Molina is akin to impeachment and could lead to criminal charges.

Former Vice President Roxana Baldetti was ordered jailed last week pending trial on charges that she took \$3.7 million in bribes from businesspeople in return for evading import duties.

On Monday, Perez Molina said "I have not received a single cent" in the bribe scandal, and said "the presumption of innocence should prevail."

Human rights prosecutor

Jorge de Leon said "the most prudent thing" for the president to do would be to resign.

Perez Molina's determination to stay in power is "playing on people's frustration, and that can cause a conflict," de Leon said.

Manfredo Marroquin, the leader of the Citizen Action civic group, also worried about the potential effects, in a country that saw decades of violence during its 1960-1996 civil war.

"This doesn't contribute to the country's stability," Marroquin said. □



Loyal Families Honored by the Marriott Surf Club



PALM BEACH - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring two very nice families whom are loyal and friendly visitors of Aruba, at the Marriott Surf Club as Distinguished visitors. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of

Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 10-to-19 consecutive years.

The honorees were Mr. Frederick and Mrs. Laraine Bertani of Davie, Florida and Mr. Jonathan E. and Mrs. Carmelita Senatz and their son Jonathan D. Senatz. Both families are loyal



members of the Marriott Surf Club and they love Aruba very much because of the friendly people, the climate, the beaches, the restaurants and of course the relaxation. They say being on Aruba and staying at the Surf Club is like being in paradise for them. The certificates were presented by Mr. Ernest Giel and Ms. Nadia Dabboussi representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Ms. Jenny Boekhoudt representing the Marriott Surf Club. □



MooMba Beach Waiting for Nate, Barry, LeeMarie & Bernard to Return!

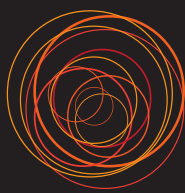
MOOMBA BEACH - They call their terrace in Elmira, NY, 'MooMba North', but it is a far cry from Aruba's MooMba Beach: Barry, Nate, LeeMarie and Bernard Linchuck are crazy about MooMba and they try to come to Aruba as many times a year as possible.

Self-pronounced beach tennis stars, they bring their own equipment and practice during the day, greatly supported by the ice cold beers and grilled shrimp

Caesar that are served. Their favorite time of day is when the sun sets and the music gets going; that is also how they found MooMba some ten years ago. They just followed the music and voila.


The Linchuck family will fortunately be back again in September, perfecting their beach tennis technique. Who knows, they might be seen in action during the International Beach Tennis event in November... □





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On Aruba:

Three Ways Bucuti & Tara Beach Resorts Leads the Way In Eco-Tourism

EAGLE BEACH - Every day is Earth Day at Aruba's premier adults-only resort, which continues to raise the bar in sustainability even after 25 years of leadership. Long before "going green" was in fashion, Aruba's Bucuti & Tara Beach Resorts was paving the way in eco-friendly practices. Today's travelers, especially millennials, are more conscious of the environment and actively seek out hotels that meet or exceed "green" standards. Bucuti has been at the forefront of the green movement in hospitality for the past 25 years and is forever committed to preserving Aruba's rich culture and environment by continually setting the bar higher with new practices.

Below are three reasons why Bucuti is considered an industry leader in sustainable travel:

ECO-INITIATIVES: Bucuti proactively takes steps to protect the environment: using solar panels to heat water, which is reused for garden irrigation; using motion-sensor-activated lighting throughout the resort; and buying in bulk whenever possible. Rainwater is also collected and used for irrigation and all welcome signs for guests are recycled from boxes. Upon check in, guests are provided with water canteens to use throughout the resort, thereby eliminating the need to purchase plastic water bottles. Bucuti also invites guests to take part in their monthly beach cleanup with employees to aid in preserving Eagle Beach. Participating guests receive a t-shirt to wear during the cleanup and



are rewarded with a bottle of bubbles to enjoy after. As part of Bucuti's mission to provide guests with a total sense of wellness, the resort's beachfront restaurant, Elements, is Aruba's first and only restaurant that provides the opportunity to enjoy gluten-free, vegan, or natural and organic dining in the presence of breathtaking views. Recently, the resort took the pledge to be a part of the Water Sense H2Otel Challenge, which is a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) partnership program designed to help save water for future generations. Bucuti is currently the only resort outside of North America that has taken the initiative at this time. For more information on Bucuti's eco initiatives, check out their website.

INDUSTRY RECOGNITION: The resort has achieved 15 consecutive years of Green Globe Certification as well as the distinction of being the first hotel in the Americas to earn the highly

coveted ISO 14001 environmental certification every year since 2003. Additionally, Bucuti earned the Green Globe High Achievement Award and is currently working to obtain its fourth green certification, LEED.

top-performing sustainable travel and tourism business in the Caribbean by Green Globe and ISLANDS' top 100 worldwide sustainable organizations. He has been honored on numerous occasions both locally and in-



As the leader of the resort's Green Team, owner Ewald Biemans has led the resort to earning the global recognition of more than two dozen environmental awards and certifications, including the Highest Achievement Award as the

ternationally for his environmental preservation work, including the International Hotel & Restaurant Association's 2004 Environmental Award (worldwide) for "Innovation in Environmental Best Practices." Recently, Biemans earned

the title of "Green Hotelier of the Year" by Caribbean Journal's 2014 Caribbean Travel Awards.

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP: Bucuti has been committed to playing an active role in the local community and taking leadership whenever possible, encouraging other resorts on-island to take initiative to protect Aruba's natural resources. From offering site tours to local students and hoteliers to speaking at conferences throughout the region, Biemans and his staff welcome the opportunity to educate others on sustainable practices. Recently, Biemans led a session aptly named "Boutique Resorts: Innovations and Eco Certifications at The Caribbean Symposium for Innovators in Coastal Tourism" in Grenada. As part of their commitment to conserving the beauty

of Aruba's natural environment, the resort regularly donates to local charities including Aruba's Donkey Sanctuary. For more information or to book, call 888-4-BUCUTI or visit <http://www.bucuti.com/reserve-now>. □

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Florin for Dollars Offer for Our Loyal Guests at Taste of Belgium and Papillon This September Month!



PALM BEACH - This month we are celebrating our Loyal guests, with a special offer to eat at Taste of Belgium or Papillon, for Florin prices instead of Dollars on food. The guests with a Loyalty

Card or new Loyalty members can enjoy their favorite dishes, at their favorite restaurants for this special price. Taste of Belgium has this offer every Monday till Wednesday and Papillon has this offer from Wednesday

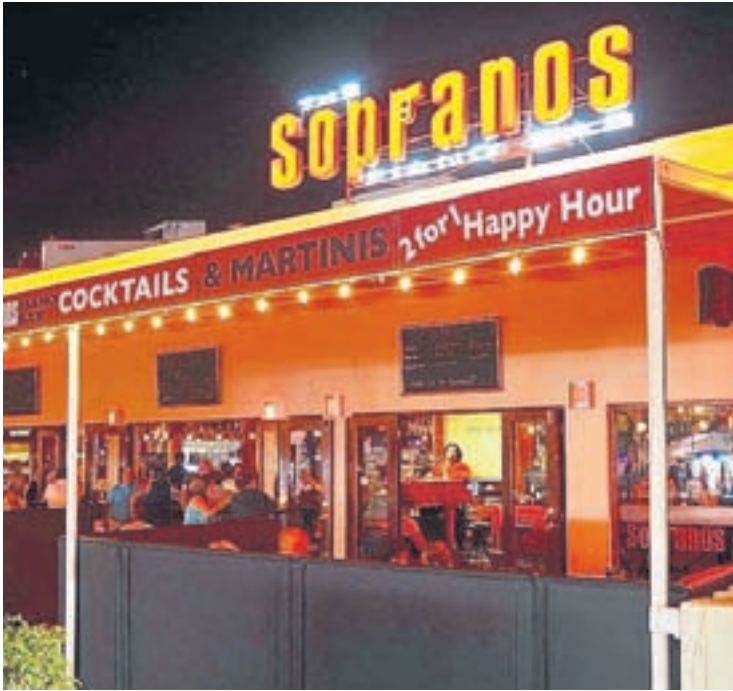
day till Friday, from the 7th of September till the 30th of September. Are you a regular customer of our restaurants, make sure you have or register for our Loyalty Card to join in on this great offer, to have

perfect dinner nights this September. 'Friends knock on your door, best friends walk in and start eating' We are very happy with our loyal guests, and like to give back for being loyal to

us. Please make your reservation as soon as possible at one or both restaurants. Reservations are preferred: reservations@papillonaruba.com Or info@tasteofbelgium.aw

A TripAdvisor rating of 4.5...

A New Website for Sopranos Piano Bar in the Arawak Garden!



PALM BEACH - A new, attractive website will keep everyone up to speed about the goings-on at fabulous Sopranos Piano Bar in the Arawak Garden. On the site one can view the uploaded photos, the menu with its specials will

be posted and there is a slide show with photos of events. Via the website there is access to the Sopranos Facebook site, making social interaction even more easily accessible.

Sopranos Piano Bar is one



of Aruba's bars with an internationally known piano player, who can belt out songs on request. The at-

mosphere is often more than a little bit lively, as is reflected in the 4.5 TripAdvisor rating that the popu-

lar bar received. The name of the new website is www.sopranospianobar.com; look it up! □

Catch your own dinner with Driftwood! **Motto at Driftwood Restaurant: "from the pier to your plate!"**



ORANJESTAD - The downtown marina is home of Driftwood Fishing Charters, the successful fisherman of the established seafood restaurant Driftwood in Oranjestad. Driftwood owner Herby

Merryweather has a love and passion for fishing. A fisherman who knows about fish, what our local waters have to offer, and what the words "fresh seafood" really mean. What Herby catches will be served in his restaurant on the same day. Herby loves to share his fishing passion with the many visitors to the island. His fleet of a 35ft. Twin Engine Bertram yacht and a 50ft. Twin Engine Post yacht, appropriately called "Driftwood I and II, is available for charters on 12 noon and from 1pm to 5pm.



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NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell leaves Federal court Monday, Aug. 31, 2015.

Associated Press

No settlement: Commissioner, Tom Brady await 'Deflategate' ruling

TOM HAYS

LARRY NEUMEISTER

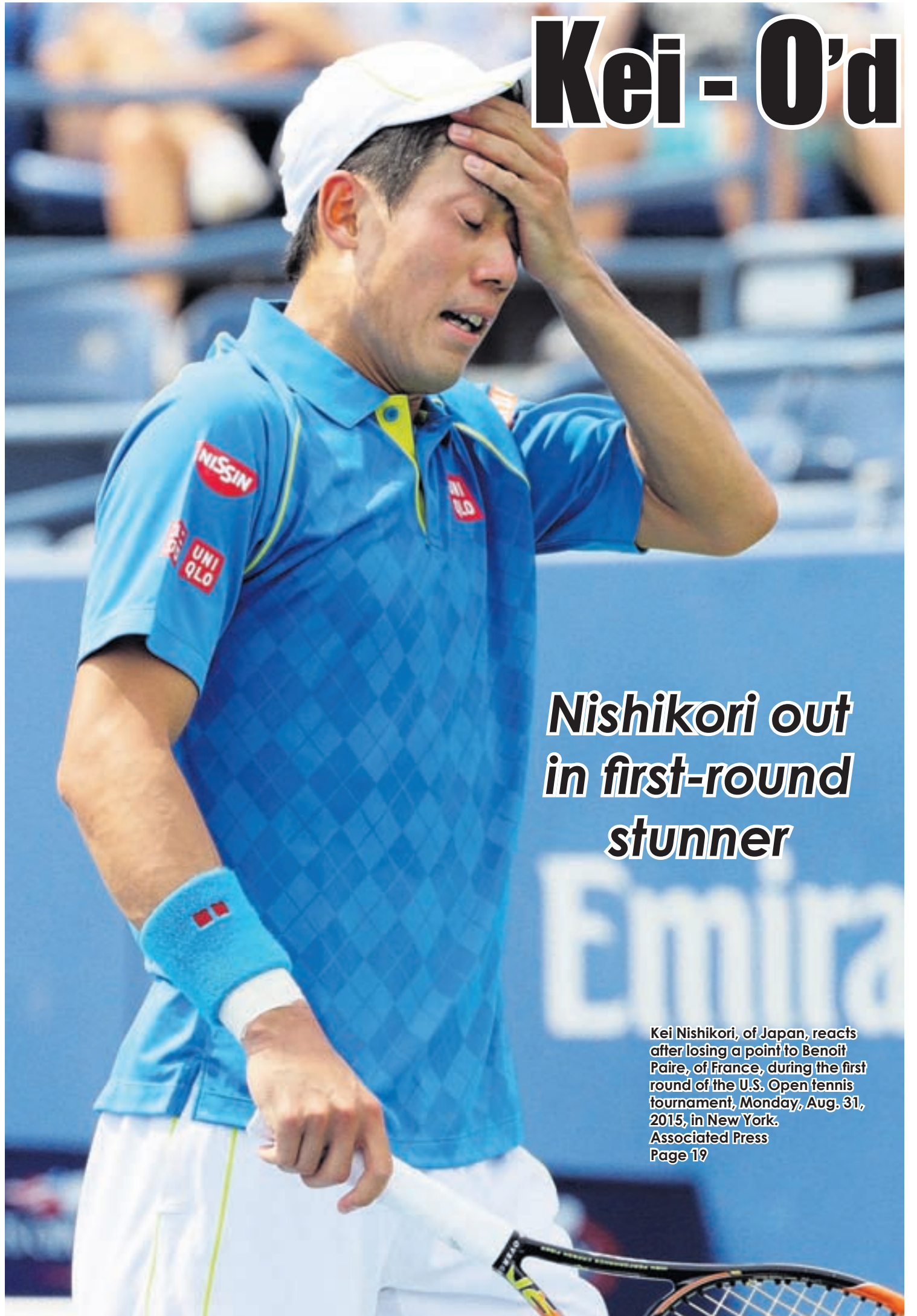
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP)—NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell and New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady attended last-minute settlement talks between the NFL and its players union Monday before a judge announced he would decide the dispute over deflated footballs with a ruling in a day or two.

U.S. District Judge Richard Berman said he had "no qualms" about the willingness of both sides to try to reach a settlement in the controversy that has hung over professional football since New England easily won the AFC title game in January.

Goodell in July upheld a four-game suspension of Brady, concluding the quarterback colluded with two Patriots ball handlers to deflate footballs before the 45-7 victory over the Colts. Brady said he had no role in it. The players union wants the suspension eliminated.

Continued on page 18



Kei - O'd

Nishikori out in first-round stunner

Kei Nishikori, of Japan, reacts after losing a point to Benoit Paire, of France, during the first round of the U.S. Open tennis tournament, Monday, Aug. 31, 2015, in New York.
Associated Press
Page 19



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Kirk Cousins to start season as Redskins QB

DAVID ELFIN

Associated Press

ASHBURN, Va. (AP) — The Washington Redskins have made a quarterback change: Kirk Cousins will be the starter this season, not Robert Griffin III.

"We feel like at this time, Kirk Cousins gives us the best chance to win," coach Jay Gruden said, unseating Griffin, the 2012 Offensive Rookie of the Year. "It's Kirk's team."

Griffin, who has struggled since tearing his right ACL and MCL in a January 2013 playoff loss to Seattle, was slated to start last Saturday's preseason game at Baltimore before being scratched the previous day in the wake of a concussion suffered on Aug. 20 against Detroit.

Cousins, taken in the fourth round in the same draft that Griffin was chosen sec-



In this photo taken Aug. 29, 2015, Washington Redskins quarterback Kirk Cousins throws to a receiver in the first half of a preseason NFL football game against the Baltimore Ravens, in Baltimore. Associated Press

ond overall, took over and led Washington's starting offense to its first two touch-

downs of the preseason.

"It's not so much what somebody didn't do; it's

just what Kirk has done. has really opened our eyes," Gruden said.

Gruden added that Cousins "has taken a giant leap" since being benched in Week 7 of 2014 after committing 11 turnovers in five games. "There's something powerful about knowing you're believed in, something powerful about knowing where you stand," Cousins said.

With Griffin still in the NFL's concussion protocol program, Gruden opted for Cousins, who was drafted along with Griffin in 2012 and has started nine games when Griffin has been hurt, going 2-7.

Gruden said the team still believes in Griffin, who has been plagued by injuries since leading the Redskins to the NFC East title.

Cousins will sit out the preseason finale Thursday against Jacksonville, with Colt McCoy playing the entire game. □

Deflategate

Continued from page 17

Speaking at a hearing that lasted less than five minutes, Berman noted that senior executives from the league and the NFL Players Association who had not attended several previous settlement talks joined more than an hour of negotiations Monday morning.

Giants president and co-owner John Mara took part, as did free agent kicker Jay Feely, Berman said. Feely is a member of the union's executive committee and Mara is chairman of the NFL's executive committee that oversees labor matters.

Outside court, Feely said the sides tried their best for a settlement.

"For us it reinforces the desire and the need for an independent arbitrator in



New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady leaves federal court following a hearing in New York.

Associated Press

these matters of personal conduct," Feely said. "But we understand Tom's position and I think the process will work itself out."

Berman said he's putting the final touches on his decision.

"It won't be today, but hopefully tomorrow or the

day after," he said of a written ruling. Berman said a week ago that he hoped to rule by Friday, giving the Patriots enough time to

prepare for their Sept. 10 season opener against the Pittsburgh Steelers.

When Berman rules, it will either uphold or eliminate Brady's suspension.

Berman had ordered Goodell and Brady to attend Monday's hearing. Both arrived 90 minutes early to participate in talks in the judge's robing room. Berman has said a settlement would be "rational and logical" but also cited weaknesses in the way the NFL handled the controversy that was nicknamed "Deflategate." The judge has also suggested that the league's finding was too vague, that Brady was generally aware that game balls were being deflated.

At a court hearing this month, Berman told the NFL there was precedent for judges to toss out penalties issued by arbitrators. □

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U.S. Open

Williams into 2nd round when injured opponent stops

HOWARD FENDRICH

AP Tennis Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Even before Serena Williams set foot in Arthur Ashe Stadium on Monday night, her path through the U.S. Open to complete the Grand Slam became a lot easier thanks to losses by other top women.

And when it was the No. 1-seeded American's turn to play her first-round match, she was not tested one bit by a woman who appeared overwhelmed by the opponent, the occasion and, to make matters worse, an injured left foot.

A year after his run all the way to his first Grand Slam final, Kei Nishikori's stay at the U.S. Open lasted only a few hours.

The fourth-seeded Nishikori had two match points in the fourth-set tiebreaker against 41st-ranked Benoit Paire, but the Frenchman saved both of them then took control in the fifth for a 6-4, 3-6, 4-6, 7-6 (6), 6-4 victory Monday.

It was the first win of his career against an opponent ranked in the top five.

"When I saw the draw against Kei, I said, 'Bad luck,'" Paire recalled.

But then he reminded himself he had been competitive in two previous losses to the Japanese star.

"It's not like if I play against Roger Federer," Paire said, explaining he knew he could get something going against Nishikori's serve. "Against Kei, I know I can play."

Nishikori had withdrawn from the hard-court warmup at Cincinnati, citing a hip injury, but he said Monday he was fine physically. Still, he looked sluggish late in the match, which lasted 3 hours, 14 minutes on a steamy day.

"He was very aggressive, so there was many rallies and it was tough to get rhythm," Nishikori said. "He hits a lot of drop shots and good serves."

Last year at Flushing Meadows, Nishikori became the first man from Asia to reach a major final, where he lost to Marin Cilic.

The 25-year-old followed that up with more success in 2015 and came into the U.S. Open with his first top-four seed at a Grand Slam tournament. He made it to the quarterfinals at both the Australian and French Opens this year, but withdrew from the second

round at Wimbledon because of a calf problem, the latest injury in a career plagued by them.

He had been playing well on the hard courts this summer before pulling out of Cincinnati, though, winning the title at Washington and beating Rafael Nadal in Montreal, where he lost to eventual champ Andy Murray in the semifinals.

It's the first time since 1999 that a U.S. Open men's finalist lost in the first round the following year. Cilic had no such problems Monday, starting his title defense with a straight-set victory over 94th-ranked qualifier Guido Pella.

The 26-year-old Paire has never been past the third round at a major tournament. He had 21 aces Monday, the last to close out the match.

So Williams moved a step closer to tennis' first calendar-year Grand Slam since 1988 without much of a workout, reaching the second round when 86th-ranked Vitalia Diatchenko of Russia stopped playing while behind 6-0, 2-0. Williams was out there for only 27 minutes and took 32 of the 37 points that were played.

"I told her I was proud of her for even coming out and making this effort when she was injured," Williams said during an on-court interview.

The 33-year-old American told the crowd she appreciates the support she is receiving "on this journey and this milestone that I'm trying to take one match at a time."

Next up for her is Kiki Bertens of the Netherlands, who is ranked 110th, only once made it as far as the fourth round at any major tournament, and picked up just the second U.S. Open



U.S. Open defending champion Serena Williams of the United States wipes her brow on a hot and humid night during her first round match against Vitalia Diatchenko of Russia in the U.S. Open Tennis tournament in New York, Monday, Aug. 31, 2015.

Associated Press

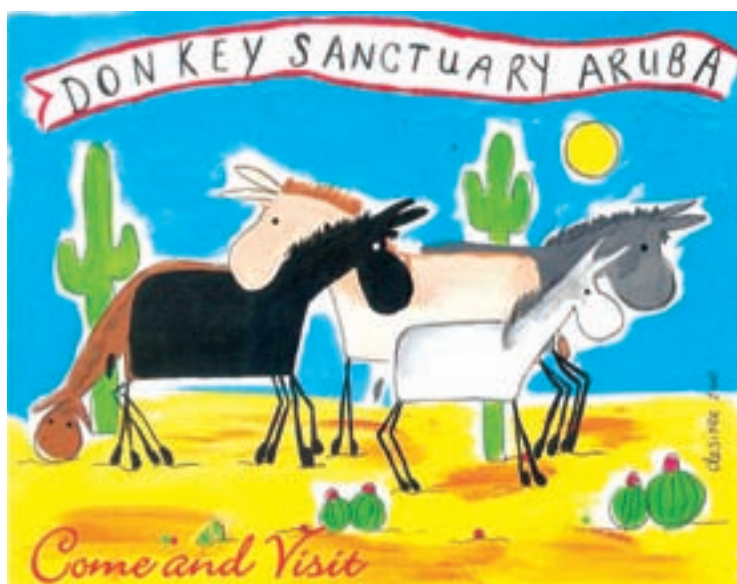
match victory over her career by eliminating Mirjana Lucic-Baroni 3-6, 6-4, 6-2 on Monday.

Williams, in contrast, is 22-0 in Grand Slam matches in 2015 alone, with championships on the hard courts of the Australian Open in January, the red clay courts of the French Open in June, and the grass courts of Wimbledon in July. If she can add a title on the hard courts of Flushing Meadows in less than two weeks, she would be the first player since Steffi Graf 27 years ago to win all four Grand Slam tournaments in the same season.

Top-seeded Novak Djokovic needed just 71 minutes

to beat 91st-ranked Joao Souza of Brazil 6-1, 6-1, 6-1. On the women's side, four of the top 10 players are already out, with seventh-seeded Ana Ivanovic, eighth-seeded Karolina Pliskova and 10th-seeded Carla Suarez Navarro losing Monday, a day after third-seeded Maria Sharapova withdrew. All were on Serena Williams' half of the draw.

Williams opens her pursuit of the first Grand Slam since Steffi Graf in 1988 on Monday night in Arthur Ashe Stadium. Before she even steps on the court, not a single top-10 player stands in the way between the American and the final. □



U.S. goalie Brad Guzan: 'Nothing changes' with Howard's return

IAN QUILLEN

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — With their roles reversed, No. 1 goalkeeper Brad Guzan of the United States insists "nothing changes" in his relationship with World Cup standout Tim Howard. Guzan and Howard are part of the U.S. team that will play exhibitions against Peru on Friday and Brazil next week, the final tune-ups before a big match in October against Mexico. The 36-year-old Howard returns to his first national team duty since taking a one-year break following an exceptional 2014 World Cup.

Guzan moved into the starting role in Howard's absence. Coach Jurgen Klinsmann indicated in August that Guzan has earned the right to keep that spot. The 30-year-old Guzan says there won't be tension.

"(Tim) and I get on really well, in terms of on the field and off the field," said Guzan, who like Howard plays in the English Premier League. "You always have someone pushing you or you're pushing someone else. And being in Europe, where it's obviously a little bit more cut-throat than here in the U.S., you devel-



In this July 1, 2014, file photo, United States' goalkeeper Tim Howard gets ready to kick the ball during the World Cup round of 16 soccer match between Belgium and the USA at the Arena Fonte Nova in Salvador, Brazil.

Associated Press

op a thick skin. "Howard helped the U.S. advance beyond the group stage of last summer's World Cup and made a tournament-record 16 saves in a round-of-16 loss to Belgium.

Guzan's stint as No. 1 included a CONCACAF Gold Cup semifinal loss to

Jamaica in July. Mexico won the tournament, setting up a meeting with U.S.

on Oct. 10 to determine who goes to the 2017 Confederations Cup in Russia.

"We know it obviously wasn't good enough from a collective standpoint," Guzan said of the Gold Cup. "That's now behind us. We need to make sure we look forward."

Howard is among several standouts from the World Cup returning from an extended layoff.

Defender Matt Besler rejoins the crowded center back contingent in his first duty since Klinsmann criticized his conditioning after winter exhibitions against Chile and Panama.

"I think everybody's moved on from that," Besler said. "We've had conversations. They're private conversations."

Midfielder Jermaine Jones has had two sports-hernia surgeries this year and has played only 107 minutes in two matches with the New England Revolution since the second.

"It's getting better," said Jones, who will use the games to help get in shape. "Trying to get my fitness back 100 percent." □

Sbaragli wins 10th Vuelta stage, Dumoulin keeps overall lead

CASTELLON, Spain (AP)

— Kristian Sbaragli of Italy outsprinted his rivals to win the 10th stage of the Spanish Vuelta on Monday, while Tom Dumoulin of Netherlands retained the overall leader's red jersey.

Sbaragli crossed the line inches ahead of second-place John Degenkolb of Germany and Jose Joaquin Rojas of Spain. All three finished on the same time.

The 25-year-old MTN-Qhubeka rider said he was delighted with his first Vuelta stage win because he'd lost a sprint to Degenkolb two days earlier.

"I needed to anticipate Degenkolb's final charge because I knew he was a bit faster than I," Sbaragli said. "I risked it two stages ago and he shot past me with just 30 meters (yards) to go." Dumoulin has a 57-second overall lead over 36-year-old Spanish rider Joaquin Rodriguez, with Esteban Chaves of Colombia another two seconds adrift.

Niki Terpstra held a 10-second lead late in the stage but was caught as the chasing group began to ascend the Alto del Desierto summit, leading to a mass sprint for the line.

Tuesday is a rest day for the riders. □

Bradley Wright-Phillips, Red Bulls fly past DC United, 3-0

HARRISON, New Jersey (AP)

— Bradley Wright-Phillips scored two goals and set up another to lead the New York Red Bulls past D.C. United 3-0 in Major League Soccer on Sunday. With the win, the Red Bulls moved two points behind Eastern Conference-leading D.C. United.

Lloyd Sam opened the scoring in the 33rd minute. Wright-Phillips made it 2-0 when he blasted a volley, off a cross from Mike Grella, into the top-right corner from just outside the box. Wright-Phillips capped the scoring in the 64th when he slipped behind the defense and, after a slight hesitation to avoid being offside, found the back of the net on a right-footer from the center of the box.

In Sunday's other game, Obafemi Martins scored his 10th goal of the season in

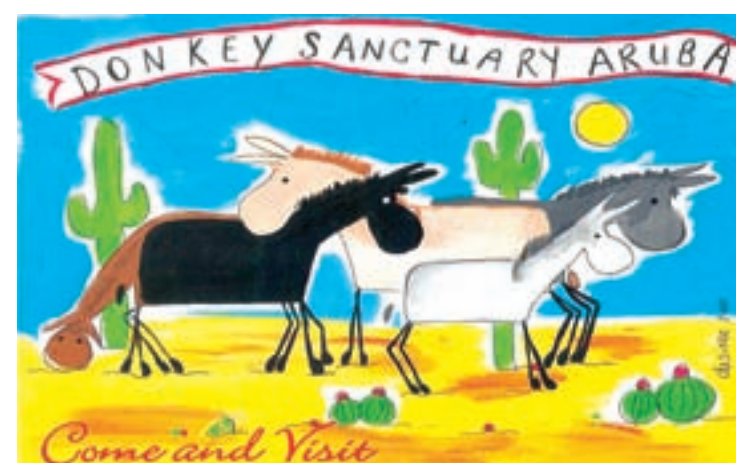
the opening minutes and Brad Evans converted a disputed penalty just before halftime as the Seattle Sounders beat the Portland Timbers 2-1.

Seattle earned a much needed three points in the Western Conference playoff race before a crowd of 64,358, the fourth largest crowd for an MLS game in Sounders' history. Seattle started the day in seventh place and outside of the playoff picture, but pulled

into a tie with San Jose for sixth with the victory.

Martins beat goalkeeper Adam Kwarasey in the sixth minute to give Seattle the early lead, then earned the Sounders a penalty kick in the 42nd minute when he was taken down in the box by Kwarasey. Brad Evans converted the penalty kick for his first goal of the season.

Jack Jewsbury scored off a corner early in the second half for Portland. □



NL Capsules

Arrieta pitches no-hitter for Cubs in 2-0 win over Dodgers

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Jake Arrieta pitched the sixth no-hitter in the major leagues this season and second against the Los Angeles Dodgers in 10 days, leading the Chicago Cubs to a 2-0 victory Sunday night. Arrieta (17-6) struck out a season-high 12 and became the first 17-game winner in the big leagues by throwing baseball's third no-hitter in less than three weeks.

Astros right-hander Mike Fiers blanked the NL West leaders 3-0 on Aug. 21 in Houston. Never before had Los Angeles been no-hit twice in one season.

Arrieta got the benefit of a close call for the official scorer in the third inning, when Kike Hernandez reached on a fielding error by second baseman Starlin Castro.

With the crowd roaring, Arrieta struck out all three batters in the ninth: Justin Turner, Jimmy Rollins and Chase Utley. Those were the same three hitters — in a different order — that Fiers retired to finish his gem. Arrieta tossed the 14th no-hitter in team history and became the first Cubs pitcher to throw one since Carlos Zambrano on Sept. 14, 2008, against Houston in a game that was moved to Miller Park in Milwaukee because of Hurricane Ike. Arrieta finished 6-0 with a 0.43 ERA in August.

Kris Bryant hit a two-run homer in the first inning off Alex Wood (9-9). The Cubs had 13 hits and snapped the Dodgers' five-game winning streak.

CARDINALS 7, GIANTS 5

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Matt Carpenter, Brandon Moss and Mark Reynolds homered and Yadier Molina drove in two runs as St. Louis beat San Francisco. Jason Heyward added three hits and drove in a run for the Cardinals, who won for the seventh time in eight games. Greg Garcia also drove in a run.

Jaime Garcia (7-4) allowed season highs in hits (10) and runs (four) but was effective enough to



Chicago Cubs starting pitcher Jake Arrieta reacts after throwing his first career no-hitter during the ninth inning of a baseball game against the Los Angeles Dodgers, Sunday, Aug. 30, 2015, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

improve to 4-0 over his past six starts. He did not walk a batter and struck out one, a season low.

Marlon Byrd celebrated his 38th birthday with a pair of doubles, a triple and four RBIs. Kelby Tomlinson also drove in a run for the Giants, who ended a 3-3 homestand.

Chris Heston (11-8) gave up five runs in 3 2-3 innings.

METS 5, RED SOX 4

NEW YORK (AP) — Michael Cuddyer hit a tiebreaking single in the seventh inning as the NL East-leading Mets stopped their five-game home losing streak, averting a sweep by Boston. Cuddyer kept up his three-week surge since coming off the disabled list, going 3 for 3 with a walk. His go-ahead hit came after Daniel Murphy stole second base with two outs.

Boston slugger David Ortiz lined his 494th home run, moving past Lou Gehrig and Fred McGriff for 27th place on the career list. Tyler Clippard (2-0) got four outs for the win. Jeurys Familia struck out Mookie Betts with runners at the corners to close out his 35th save in 40 chances. Before the game, the Mets completed their trade to get reliever Addison Reed from Arizona.

Robbie Ross Jr. (0-2) took the loss. **NATIONALS 7, MARLINS 4** **WASHINGTON (AP)** — Jayson Werth homered and drove in three runs, and

Clint Robinson added a pinch-hit homer as Washington had 13 hits and rallied past Miami.

Michael Taylor added two singles and scored twice for Washington, which got hits from all eight position players.

Doug Fister (5-7) pitched two scoreless innings in relief of Stephen Strasburg for the win.

Strasburg was lifted after throwing 60 pitches in four innings with upper back tightness. He gave up four runs on seven hits.

Miami starter Brad Hand (4-4) allowed five runs on eight hits over 4 2-3 innings.

ROCKIES 5, PIRATES 0

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Jorge De La Rosa pitched into the seventh inning before being ejected, and Ben Paulsen hit a two-run triple as the Colorado Rockies beat the Pittsburgh Pirates. De La Rosa (8-6) allowed four hits in six-plus innings while striking out seven and walking one. The left-hander's only other win since July 11 — a span of 10 starts — came Aug. 7 at Washington.

Scott Oberg, Christian Friedrich, Jairo Diaz and John Axford completed the four-hit shutout.

De La Rosa and manager Walt Weiss were ejected for arguing with plate umpire Jeff Nelson as Weiss went to the mound to remove De La Rosa from the game.

Charlie Morton (8-6) al-

lowed five runs (three earned) over six innings.

BREWERS 4, REDS 1

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Ryan Braun homered and Wily Peralta pitched seven strong innings to help Milwaukee beat Cincinnati. Peralta (5-8) held the Reds to one run and seven hits in a battle of teams fighting to stay out of the National League Central cellar.

Peralta struck out six and didn't issue a walk.

Braun's two-out solo home run in the first off Reds' starter John Lamb (0-3) gave the Brewers the early lead. The Reds tied the score in the second when a soft chopper by Brayan Pena got past Milwaukee's drawn in infield. Milwaukee grabbed the lead again in the third on Jonathan Lucroy's run-scoring single.

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HITMAN AGENT 47

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MON-THURS 5:00 | 7:30 | 9:40
FRI 5:00 | 7:30 | 9:40 | 12:00
SAT 2:40 | 5:00 | 7:30 | 9:40 | 12:00
SUN & HOL 2:40 | 5:00 | 7:30 | 9:40

NO ESCAPE

LAKE BELL | OWEN WILSON

MON-THURS 4:50 | 7:10 | 9:30
FRI 4:50 | 7:10 | 9:30 | 11:50
SAT 2:30 | 4:50 | 7:10 | 9:30 | 11:50
SUN & HOL 2:30 | 4:50 | 7:10 | 9:30

SINISTER II

JAMES RANSOM | SHANNYN SOSSAMON

MON-THURS 4:55 | 7:10 | 9:25
FRI 4:55 | 7:10 | 9:25 | 11:40
SAT 2:40 | 4:55 | 7:10 | 9:25 | 11:40
SUN & HOL 2:40 | 4:55 | 7:10 | 9:25

STRAIGHT OUTTA COMPTON

O'SHEA JACKSON JR. | COREY HAWKINS

MON-THURS 5:50 | 8:50
FRI 5:50 | 8:50
SAT 2:50 | 5:50 | 8:50
SUN & HOL 2:50 | 5:50 | 8:50

HITMAN AGENT 47

RUPERT FRIEND | HANNAH WARE

MON-THURS 8:40
FRI 8:40 | 11:15
SAT 8:40 | 11:15
SUN & HOL 8:40

VACATION

ED HELMS | CHRISTINA APPLEGATE

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

MON 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:20
FRI 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:20 | 11:35
SAT 2:30 | 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:20 | 11:35
SUN & HOL 2:30 | 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:20

THE MAN FROM U.N.C.L.E.

HENRY CAVILL | ARMIE HAMMER

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

MON-THURS 4:00 | 6:00
FRI 4:00 | 6:00
SAT 3:20 | 6:00
SUN & HOL 3:20 | 6:00

FANTASTIC 4

MILES TELLER | KATE MARA

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

MON-THURS 5:00 | 7:15 | 9:30
FRI 5:00 | 7:15 | 9:30 | 11:45
SAT 2:45 | 5:00 | 7:15 | 9:30 | 11:45
SUN & HOL 2:45 | 5:00 | 7:15 | 9:30

MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE ROGUE NATION

TOM CRUISE | JEREMY RENNER

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

MON-THURS 3:55 | 6:15 | 9:10
FRI 3:55 | 6:15 | 9:10
SAT 3:25 | 6:15 | 9:10
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AL Capsules

Encarnacion stays hot, Blue Jays sweep Tigers 9-2

BLUE JAYS 9, TIGERS 2

TORONTO (AP) — Edwin Encarnacion homered for the fourth time in two days and Josh Donaldson also connected as Toronto beat struggling Detroit to complete a three-game sweep. Russell Martin and Kevin Pillar each hit a two-run shot for Toronto, which leads the majors with 184 home runs. The AL East leaders had their second straight four-homer game and sixth of the season.

Encarnacion hit three home runs and matched a Blue Jays record with nine RBIs in Saturday's 15-1 rout. His latest drive extended his hitting streak to 25 games, the longest in the majors since a 28-game run by Colorado's Nolan Arenado in 2014.

The home run was Encarnacion's 30th of the season, 11 in August. He has a major league-leading 35 RBIs this month, breaking the club record he shared with Carlos Delgado, who had 34 in June 2003.

Encarnacion has at least one extra-base hit and one RBI in eight consecutive games.

Mark Buehrle (14-6) allowed two runs in six-plus innings as the Blue Jays improved



Toronto Blue Jays' Edwin Encarnacion, right, celebrates with Troy Tulowitzki after hitting a solo home run off Detroit Tigers starting pitcher Alfredo Simon during the first inning of a baseball game, Sunday Aug. 30, 2015, in Toronto.

to 21-5 in August, matching the team record for wins in a month. Toronto went 21-9 in May 2014.

Alfredo Simon (11-9) allowed all four Blue Jays homers in five innings as the last-place Tigers lost for the ninth time in 10 games.

YANKEES 20, BRAVES 6

ATLANTA (AP) — Jacoby Ellsbury hit a three-run homer, and Chase Headley and Stephen Drew each added a two-run shot as

New York routed Atlanta to finish a three-game sweep. All three homers, which helped build an 8-2 lead, came with two outs. Headley and Drew, who had four hits, both drove in four runs. After the Braves cut the lead to 8-5, pinch-hitter Alex Rodriguez drove in two runs with a bases-loaded single in the Yankees' nine-run seventh inning.

The U.S. flag at Turner Field flew at half-staff and a mo-

ment of silence was observed before the game in memory of Gregory K. Murrey.

Murrey, a Braves season-ticket holder, died after falling from the upper deck to the lower-level seats on Saturday night. He was 60. The Braves displayed a photo of Murrey on the video board during the moment of silence.

Despite the sweep, the Yankees gained no ground

on first-place Toronto, which leads New York by 1 1/2 games.

The Braves have lost five straight and 12 of 13. They've dropped nine consecutive interleague games since a win over Boston on June 17.

Nathan Eovaldi (14-2) allowed five runs and eight hits in five-plus innings.

Julio Teheran (9-7) gave up nine hits and eight runs in 4 1-3 innings.

RANGERS 6, ORIOLES 0

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Derek Holland struck out every Baltimore batter while throwing a three-hitter for his eighth career shutout, leading Texas to a three-game sweep.

Holland (2-1), in his third start since coming off the disabled list, matched a career high with 11 strikeouts. He walked none and hit a batter with a pitch. The left-hander struck out each of the Orioles' nine starters at least once, getting Adam Jones and Chris Davis twice.

At 68-61, the Rangers are seven games over .500 for the first time since the end of the 2013 season. Their 68 wins are already one more than all of last year. □

WNBA Capsules

Sims' 30 leads Tulsa past Fever and into playoffs, 76-70



Minnesota Lynx forwards Devereaux Peters, left, and Rebekkah Brunson (32) try to block the shot of Phoenix Mercury center Brittney Griner (42) during the first half of a WNBA basketball game, Sunday, Aug. 30, 2015, in Minneapolis.

Associated Press

TULSA, Oklahoma (AP) — Odyssey Sims scored 30 points, converting six free throws in the final 19 seconds, and the Tulsa Shock held off Indiana 76-70 on Sunday to secure the franchise's first playoff berth since 2009.

The Shock had not reached the playoffs since moving to Tulsa from Detroit in 2010. The franchise already has announced that it will relocate to the Dallas-Ft. Worth area for the 2016 season.

Tulsa (15-14) led by as many as 17 points in the first quarter after running off a string of 15 unanswered points and snapped a string of four straight home-court losses to Indiana (17-12).

Karima Christmas had 18 points and Plenette Pierson added 11 for Tulsa.

Tamika Catchings scored 22 points and grabbed 13 rebounds, but was the lone player to reach double figures in either category as Indiana had its club-record streak of four consecutive road victories snapped.

SPARKS 60, STARS 52

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Jantel Lavender scored a season-high 24 points as the Sparks kept the Stars winless on the road.

The Sparks (12-18) opened a three-game home stand with their fourth win in five games after a 3-1 road trip. Los Angeles maintained

its hold on the final playoff spot in the Western Conference.

Kristi Toliver scored 15 points for the Sparks and Candace Parker posted her 11th double-double in 14 games with 10 points and 11 rebounds.

San Antonio (7-23) pulled within 49-45 on Jia Perkins's jumper with 7:20 left, but Toliver knocked down an 18-footer and Alana Beard converted a layup off a Parker feed to push the lead back to 53-45.

Perkins finished with 15 points to lead the Stars.

LYNX 71, MERCURY 61

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Maya Moore scored 28 points

and Sylvia Fowles added 14 points and 13 rebounds to help the Lynx beat the Mercury.

Renee Montgomery had 15 points for the Lynx (20-10), who now lead Phoenix by three games in the Western Conference.

Minnesota, which was 2-of-10 shooting to open the game and missed 11 straight shots in the second quarter, started the second half with a 10-2 run, including a 3-point play by Fowles that gave the Lynx their first lead of the game, 41-39.

A jumper by Moore with 2:53 to play gave capped a 16-4 spurt and made it 66-56 — the Lynx's biggest lead of the game. □



In this Nov. 4, 2013, file photo, pedestrians cross the street in front of Twitter headquarters in San Francisco. Associated Press

Twitter sets modest goals to diversity its workforce

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Twitter is setting modest goals to diversify its workforce while it fights a proposed class-action lawsuit that says the online messaging service discriminates against its female employees.

The hiring targets were released Friday along with data showing that Twitter primarily employs white and Asian men in high-paying technology jobs, like most of its industry peers. Twitter is aiming to fill 16 percent of its technology jobs with a woman next year, up from 13 percent currently. The San Francisco company also wants women to make up 25 percent of its leadership roles, from 22 percent now, and is promising to hire more blacks and Hispanics.

Former Twitter engineer Tina Huang filed a lawsuit in March attacking the company's treatment of women. The complaint says Twitter has a history of bypassing qualified women for promotions. Twitter has denied the allegations.

Based on a total workforce of about 4,100 people, Twitter currently employs about 1,400 women, or 34 percent of its total payroll. The company wants 35 percent of its total workforce to be comprised of women next year.

"We're holding ourselves accountable to these measurable goals, as should you," Twitter executive Janet Van Huysse wrote in a blog post.

Other major technology companies, including Google, Facebook and Apple, also are trying to lessen their long-time dependence on white and Asian men to fill programming jobs that typically pay \$100,000 to \$300,000.

Unlike Twitter, not all tech companies have established a concrete number of women, blacks and Hispanics that they are hoping to employ, nor when their workforce might look more like the overall population.

The composition of most big tech employers didn't significantly change in the first year since they began acknowledging their diversity problems under pressure from a coalition led by civil rights leader Jesse Jackson.

Twitter has other pressing issues besides addressing a lack of worker diversity. The company still isn't making money more than nine years since its first tweet was sent and is still looking for a new CEO to accelerate its user growth. Co-founder Jack Dorsey has been serving as interim CEO since Dick Costolo stepped down from the top job in July.

Meanwhile, Twitter's stock has shed nearly half its value during the past four months as investors have lost faith in the company. The shares gained 37 cents Friday to close at \$26.83, slightly above its initial public offering price of \$26 in November 2013. □



In this Aug. 21, 2015, a number of new Android Wear smartwatches compatible with the Apple iPhone are posed for a photo at Google's offices in San Francisco. Associated Press

Google tries to woo iPhone owners with Android watch app

MICHAEL LIEDTKE

AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Google is introducing an application that will connect Android smartwatches with Apple's iPhone, escalating the rivals' battle to strap their technology on people's wrists.

The move thrusts Google on to Apple's turf in an attempt to boost the lackluster sales of watches running on its Android Wear software. The program uniting the devices running on different operating systems is being released Monday in Apple's app store.

Until now, Android watches only worked with smartphones powered by Android software, just as the Apple Watch is designed to be tethered exclusively to the iPhone.

Google's new app, though, will enable the latest Android watches to link with the iPhone so people can quickly glance at their wrists for directions, fitness information and notifications about events, emails and Facebook updates.

The devices still won't be able to be tied together in a way that will allow the Android watches to communicate with all the other apps that a user might have installed on the iPhone.

That roadblock is likely to discourage many iPhone owners from defecting from Apple to buy an Android watch unless Google eventually finds a way to overcome the obstacle, said IDC analyst Ramon Llamas.

For now, the Android watches are most likely to appeal to iPhone owners reluctant to spend a lot of money on a device that remains more of a novelty than an essential gadget.

Google expects the prices of Android watches compatible with the iPhone to range from \$100 to \$400. Apple, which has a long history of demanding premium prices for its products, sells most of its watches for \$350 to \$1,000, though its luxury models cost more than \$10,000.

Android watches aren't going to be bought by "the fan boys and fan girls that have to have absolutely everything with an Apple logo on it," Llamas said. "We are talking about going after people who are open to other possibilities with what they can do with their devices."

Although Apple was a late entrant into the smartwatch market, the company quickly surged to the front of the pack after its April release.

About 4 million Apple Watches were sold during the three months ended in June to command three-fourths of the worldwide smartwatch market, based on estimates from the research firm Strategy Analytics. The combined sales of Android watches made by various device makers during the same period totaled 600,000 units for an 11 percent market share. Samsung watches running on Tizen software grabbed most of the rest of the market with a 7.5 percent share. Google is hoping the next wave of Android Wear watches will help to shift the tide in its favor. The upcoming Android watches that will work with the iPhone include the Asus ZenWatch 2 and the Huawei Watch. LG Electronics already makes an Android Watch, the \$300 Urbane, that's compatible with the iPhone. Working with the new app, the Android smartwatches will be compatible with iPhones dating back to the 5, as long as their operating systems have been updated to at least iOS 8.2.

"This is a shrewd move by Google to expand its potential market," Llamas said. "There is only so much space available on each wrist." □

Wall Street closes out worst month in 3 years

KEN SWEET

AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — August was a brutal month for investors.

Fears about a slowdown in China's economy and concerns about when the Federal Reserve will raise interest rates pushed stocks sharply lower this month. While the market recovered much of the ground it lost, the Standard & Poor's 500 index still finished August down 6.3 percent, its

more slowly than anticipated. That combined with another plunge in Chinese stocks sent off red flags in Asia, Europe and the Americas.

The selling was fierce and deep. Trading volume, which typically slows in summer, spiked. The S&P 500 index at one point fell into what's known as a "correction," which is when an index falls 10 percent or more from a recent high.

in the day, jumped after the U.S. Energy Department cut its estimate for the country's oil production. The news sent energy stocks higher, making energy the only industry in the S&P 500 to close with a gain.

U.S. crude surged \$3.98, or nearly 9 percent, to \$49.20 a barrel in New York. Brent crude, the international standard, jumped \$4.10 to \$54.15 a barrel in London. It wasn't like U.S. markets

market primed to overact to basically anything out there," said Scott Clemons, chief investment strategist at Brown Brothers Harriman Private Bank.

Things are not likely to change in September. Even setting aside the historical reputation of September being one of the toughest months for the market, investors will have to contend with the Federal Reserve's interest rate meeting on September 16 and 17 and more economic data from the U.S. and China that could drastically swing the market from one way to another.

"Concerns over slowing growth in China are unlikely to go away. Many investors have long awaited signs that China was on the verge of implosion," said Bob Doll, chief equity strategist at Nuveen Asset Management.

Investors are also keeping a close eye on the Federal Reserve. Fed Vice Chairman Stanley Fischer said over the weekend that policymakers still had a "pretty strong case" for raising rates in September. That ran counter to recent market sentiment that China's economic slowdown and global market volatility might prompt the nation's central bank to wait. Speaking at the Fed's annual gathering in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, Fischer emphasized he was not saying what action the Fed might take at its September meeting, but analysts took his comments to mean he saw the economy moving close to satisfying the Fed's conditions for a hike. □



Trader Fred DeMarco, center, works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. On Monday the declines in US indexes were relatively modest compared to the previous weeks' moves.

AP Photo/Richard Drew)

worst showing since May 2012.

The selling started midway through the month after China shocked investors by devaluing its currency. The move, an effort to boost China's economy, seemed to have the opposite effect. Global investors interpreted the decision as a sign that China's economy, the second-largest in the world, was growing

On Monday the declines were relatively modest. The Dow Jones industrial average gave up 114.98 points, or 0.7 percent, to close at 16,528.03. The S&P 500 lost 16.69 points, or 0.8 percent, to 1,972.18 and the Nasdaq composite lost 51.82 points, or 1.1 percent, to 4,776.51.

The losses had been deeper, but oil prices, which were solidly lower earlier

were in perfect shape before China's spooked them. Investors had recently trudged through a corporate earnings season which delivered only meager profit growth.

"Earnings growth is waning and stock valuations are either fully valued or even a little overvalued right now. I think the investor complacency we had earlier in the summer has made this

Eurozone inflation stable at low rate of 0.2 percent: AP

BRUSSELS (AP) — Inflation in the 19-nation eurozone was stable in August at an annual rate of 0.2 percent, an official report shows — another weak figure that may help push the European Central Bank toward doing more economic stimulus.

The European Union's statistics agency, Eurostat, said Monday that a large drop in energy prices made up for increases in the costs of food, alcohol and tobacco, services and industrial goods.

The inflation figures remains far below the European Central Bank's aim for an annual rate of just under 2 percent.

A prolonged period of low inflation or, worse, an outright drop in consumer prices, is a sign of weak demand and can hurt an economy by encouraging consumers to delay purchases. It can also make it harder for eurozone governments to reduce debt and improve their cost competitiveness relative to other countries.

The ECB has vowed to push up weak inflation and stimulate growth through a 1.1 trillion euro (\$1.2 trillion) stimulus program dubbed quantitative easing. The bank is pushing newly printed euros into the economy by purchasing 60 billion euros a month in government and corporate bonds through September 2016.

ECB President Mario Draghi has said the ECB intends to stick with the program until inflation turns up convincingly, implying the stimulus could be continued beyond September next year. The ECB publishes new inflation projections after its governing council meeting Thursday, which could provide clues to the bank's future stance.

Separately, France's economy minister said the eurozone's woes call for a strong eurozone "economic government" with its own budget, and is arguing that preserving Europe's shared currency will require financial transfers from its strongest countries. □

Epix reaches Hulu deal, ends Netflix agreement

The Associated Press

The cable network Epix jumped from Netflix to Hulu, landing a multiyear, digital subscription video on demand deal with the streaming service.

Beginning Oct. 1, Hulu subscribers will get films from Lionsgate, MGM and Paramount, the companies announced late Sunday. That includes "Hunger Games:

Catching Fire," "Wolf of Wall Street," as well as new titles, library films and Epix original programming.

Terms of the deal were not disclosed. It's a "huge expansion" for Hulu's premium programming, Senior Vice President Craig Erwich said in a printed statement. Netflix plans to improve its lineup through original films and licensing arrange-

ments with movie studios, Chief Content Officer Ted Sarandos wrote in a blog post. He said that many of the movies Netflix received through its Epix agreement also were widely available through other subscription platforms.

"We know some of you will be disappointed by the expiration of the Epix movies," Sarandos wrote. "Our

goal is to provide great movies and TV series for all tastes, that are only available on Netflix. We're confident you'll enjoy our ever-improving catalogue."

Shares of Netflix Inc., based in Los Gatos, California, fell nearly 2 percent, or \$2.31, to \$115.32 Monday morning, while broader indexes slumped around 1 percent. □

Blue Bell resumes selling ice cream after listeria recall

BRENNHAM, Texas (AP) — Blue Bell ice cream is back. Blue Bell Creameries resumed selling its products at some locations Monday, four months after the Texas-based retailer halted sales due to listeria contamination at some plants prompted health concerns that drew the regulatory scrutiny of federal and state officials. Blue Bell ice cream is avail-

able again at stores in the Houston and Austin areas, including in the company's hometown of Brenham, plus in parts of Alabama. Some retailers limited purchases as Blue Bell brought out flavors including homemade vanilla, Dutch chocolate, cookies 'n cream and a side-by-side blend of chocolate and vanilla. A Blue Bell delivery truck rolled up Monday to the

Texas Capitol in Austin, with complimentary half-gallons for Gov. Greg Abbott, who shared the ice cream with his staff, said Cait Meisenheimer, an Abbott aide. A grocery store in the Houston area held a Blue Bell ice cream-eating contest Monday. The company had voluntarily recalled its products in April after they were linked to 10 listeria cases in

four states, including three deaths in Kansas. Listeria bacteria can cause serious illness, especially in older adults, pregnant women and those with weakened immune systems. The company, according to its website, collected approximately 8 million gallons of ice cream and ice cream products. Production plants in Texas,

Oklahoma and Alabama underwent an extensive cleaning and decontamination, under the regulatory oversight of health officials. Hundreds of Blue Bell workers were laid off. The Blue Bell plant in Sylacauga, Alabama, began producing ice cream in July. The company announced plans on Aug. 17 to resume distribution to some markets. □

Apple aims to boost mobile device sales with Cisco's help

MICHAEL LIEDTKE
AP Technology Writer
SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Apple is leaning on Cisco Systems' Internet networking expertise in its latest attempt to sell more iPhones and iPads to corporate customers. The alliance announced Monday calls for Cisco to ensure that corporate Internet connections relying on its gear deliver content quickly and securely to iPhones and iPads. Cisco will also help Apple develop ways for iPhones to interact more smoothly with workers' office phones. Financial terms of the partnership weren't disclosed. This is the second time in two years that Apple has teamed up with a major technology company that focuses on business customers. Apple joined forces with IBM Corp. 13 months ago to build and sell business applications for the iPhone and iPad. The aggressive push into the corporate market is part of Apple's strategy to reverse a slump in the iPad. Sales of the pioneer-

ing tablet have fallen from the previous year in six consecutive quarters, reflecting competition from less expensive alternatives and

iPad by making the tablet more useful for businesses. The Cupertino, California, company also wants to expand the appeal of the

IBM helping each other out once would have seemed inconceivable because they were such bitter rivals in the personal computer

images of novelist George Orwell's "Big Brother" figure in "1984." Although Apple's relationship with Cisco never got that nasty, the two companies locked in a legal skirmish over rights to use the terms "iPhone" and "iOS," the software that powers Apple's mobile devices. Maintaining that it owned the iPhone trademark, Cisco sued Apple shortly after that device was announced in 2007. The companies reached a confidential settlement that allowed both companies to use the name. Cisco Systems Inc. also calls its own networking software "IOS." The San Jose, California, company agreed to license that name to Apple for an undisclosed amount. Apple isn't the only maker of popular consumer products that's trying to court more business customers. Google, the maker of the Android operating system for mobile devices and Chrome operating system for personal computers, also has been trying to muscle into the same market. □



Apple CEO Tim Cook speaks in New York. Apple is leaning on Cisco Systems' Internet networking expertise in its latest attempt to sell more iPhones and iPads to corporate customers.
(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

consumers' aversion to upgrading to the latest iPads as frequently as they have with new versions of the iPhone. Apple Inc. is hoping to spur more sales of the

iPhone, its biggest money-maker. The recent focus on business customers has prodded Apple to befriend former antagonists. The notion of Apple and

market. The animosity ran so high that Apple famously skewered IBM as a soulless company devoid of new ideas in a television commercial that evoked

Labor board ruling can hurt small business, groups say

JOYCE ROSENBERG
AP Business Writer
A National Labor Relations Board ruling that modified the definition of an employer could hurt small businesses including franchises and subcontractors, according to industry groups that advocate for those companies. The NLRB decision Thursday came in a case involving

waste management company Browning-Ferris Industries and a staffing company, Leadpoint Business Services, which supplied workers to Browning-Ferris. The NLRB ruled that Browning-Ferris is a joint employer with Leadpoint. The board said it will consider factors such as whether a company exercised control over employees

"indirectly through an intermediary, or whether it has reserved the authority to do so" in determining whether companies are joint employers. Before the ruling, companies had to have exercised "direct operational and supervisory control" over employees to be considered joint employers. The written decision did not

mention franchises, but two dissenting members of the five-member NLRB listed franchisors and franchisees among the business relationships that would be affected by the ruling. The franchise industry is concerned because individually-owned franchises, which are often owned by small companies, could now be drawn into national

labor disputes, said the International Franchise Association. "The new standard would also increase the likelihood of union 'campaigns' against national businesses, while forcing small businesses to become engaged in protracted, unnecessary and costly legal battles," the IFA said in a statement. □

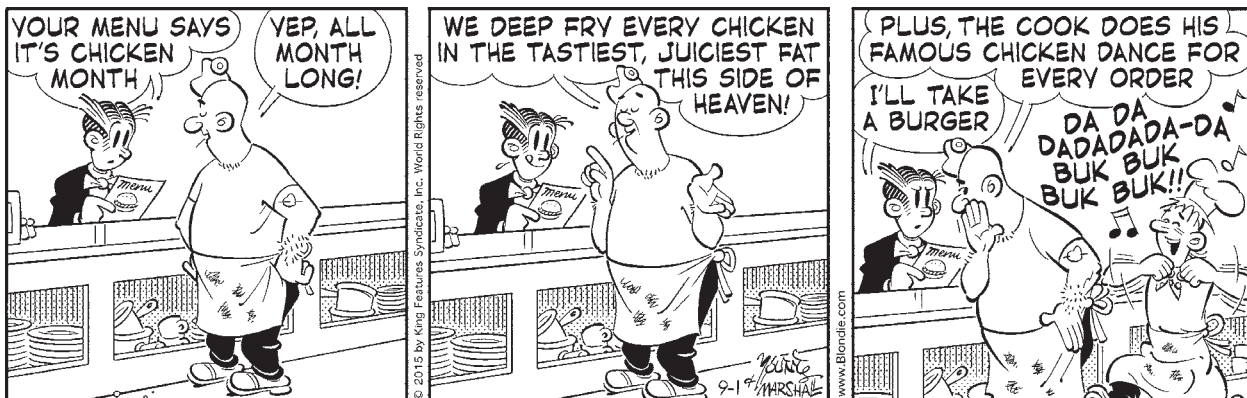
Mutts



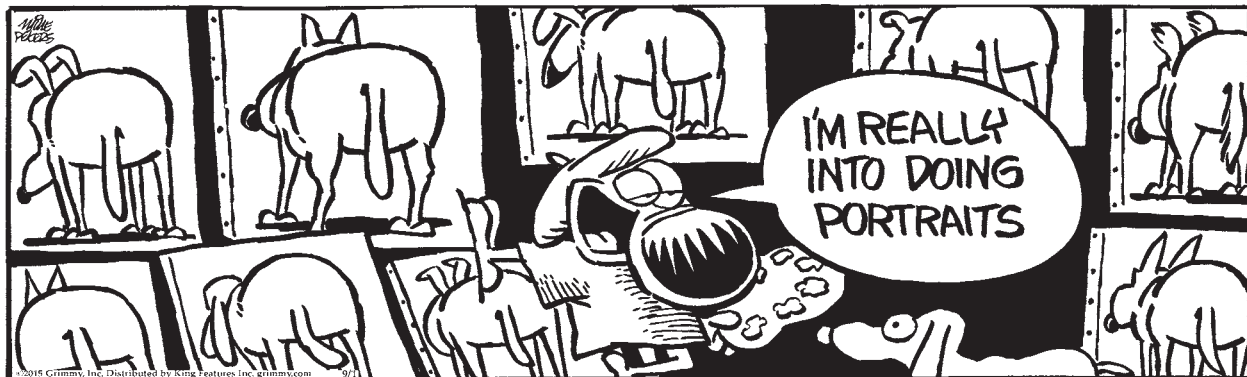
6 Chix



Blondie



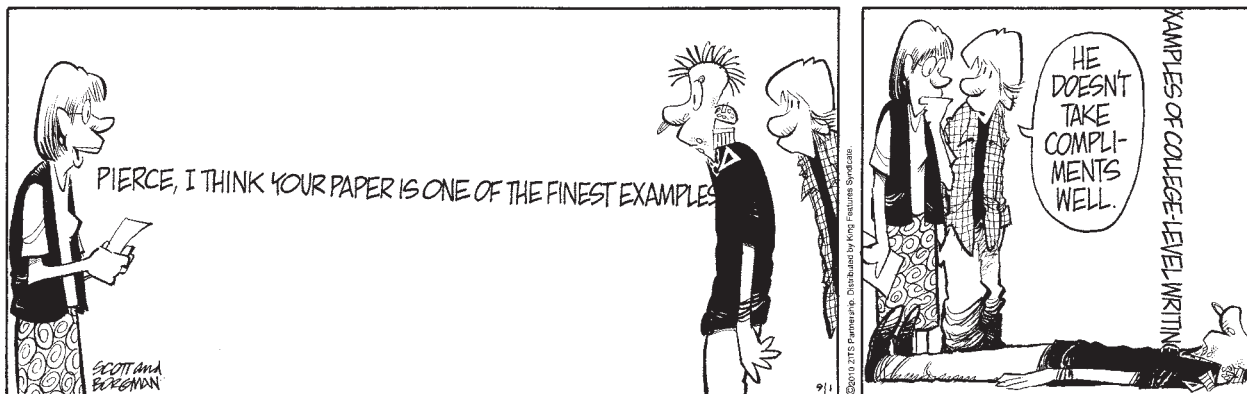
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

								4
	8	1	7				6	
		6		5	1		8	3
2	9							5
			4					
6							4	8
4	2		5	6		7		
	5				7	4	2	
3								

Difficulty Level ★★

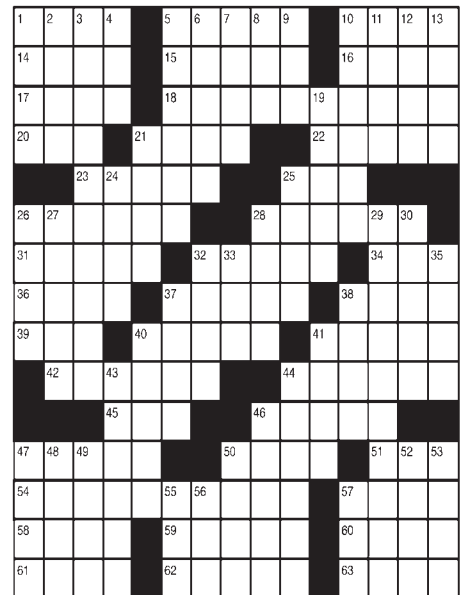
9/01

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

5	2	4	1	8	7	3	9	6
3	8	6	9	4	5	7	2	1
9	7	1	3	6	2	5	4	8
2	6	9	7	1	8	4	3	5
8	1	7	5	3	4	2	6	9
4	5	3	2	9	6	8	1	7
7	3	5	6	2	9	1	8	4
6	4	2	8	5	1	9	7	3
1	9	8	4	7	3	6	5	2

ACROSS

- Sudden attack
- Groups of actors
- Bleak; gloomy
- Meanie
- Furry swimmer
- Rat ____; daily grind
- Certain
- Usurers
- "We're off to the Wizard..."
- Actress Sheedy
- Follows orders
- Not forbidden by law
- Hole-making tool
- Ingenious
- Do-nothings
- Itchy allergic reaction
- Discovers
- "...through the night that flag was still..."
- Zsa Zsa's sis and others
- Makes a salary
- Tearful request
- Actress Ming-Na
- Abbey dwellers
- Covered with mildew
- Kite flier's need
- Verdict deciders
- "... Now or Never"
- Hayes or Hunt
- Use a razor
- First, Second or Third
- Student's avg.
- Soft spreadable sausage
- Hot tubs
- "... my dead body!"
- Fit to be tied
- Actor Schroder
- Mrs. Truman
- Prefix for net or national
- Colony insects



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

9/1/15

Monday's Puzzle Solved

LOP	SLEEP	SNUB
EVAS	HEAVE	YORE
GENE	ROVER	SAGA
READ	INESS	THEN
SINS	IRE	
OCLOCK	MISHMASH	
BRINK	MOTTO	LEI
AILS	DAVIS	BOND
MEA	GORES	CANOE
ASCENDED	SEWERS	
BUD	BALL	
SLOB	ESTABLISH	
MAXI	ROUGE	NEED
OVEN	EMBER	GEAR
GANG	DEALS	PRY

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9/1/15

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 37 Long periods | 48 Bee colony |
| 38 Tiny skin opening | 49 Rosary prayers |
| 40 Bishop's hat | 50 Difficult child |
| 41 Stubborn critter | 52 Treaty |
| 43 Rhone and Nile | 53 ____ for; requests |
| 44 Court clown | 55 Home video |
| 46 In ____; speedily | 56 Footed vase |
| 47 Messy eater | 57 Mrs. in Málaga |

Appeals court upholds Jesus statue on mountain

AMY BETH HANSON

Associated Press

HELENA, Montana (AP) —

A 6-foot (nearly 2-meter) tall statue of Jesus that has spent the last 60 years overlooking a northwestern Montana ski hill may stay there, a federal appeals court ruled Monday.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals rejected arguments from a group of atheists and agnostics that allowing the statue to remain on U.S. Forest Service land violates the constitutional separation of church and state.

Two members of the three-judge panel agreed with U.S. District Judge Dana Christensen of Montana, who found that the statue's secular and irreverent uses outweighed its religious uses.

In June of 2013 Christensen wrote that "Big Mountain Jesus has been the subject of much frivolity over the years," serving as a meeting place for skiers, a wedding location and being festooned with ski hats, goggles, Mardi Gras beads and other secular decorations. "The Court rightly rejected Freedom From Religion Foundation's radical idea that a privately owned memorial standing in the middle of a ski resort violates the Constitution," said Eric Baxter, senior counsel with the Becket Fund, which



Skiers visit a statue of Jesus Christ at Whitefish Mountain Resort Whitefish, Mont. A Montana judge says a 6-foot-tall statue of Jesus that was placed on federal land on Big Mountain near Whitefish nearly 60 years ago can remain.

(AP Photo/Missoulain, Linda Thompson)

defended the Flathead National Forest, forest supervisor Chip Weber and the U.S. Forest Service on appeal. Circuit Judge Harry Pregerson dissented, saying a statue of Jesus "situated on a government-leased land cannot realistically be

looked upon as being 'predominantly secular in nature.'"

The Freedom From Religion Foundation plans to ask that the case be reviewed by the full court, said co-founder Annie Laurie Gaylor. □

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week 36/ sept.5 start Eagle 3 2 room suite unit 4206. lock off master b/r, granite kitchen, two baths, 24 hour security, gated, washer/dryer luxury furnishing s sleeps 4, 34 left on contract steps to affinity pool/bar \$4850 sale (equity value \$12000) Rent \$1200

email: rmwjmw@aol.com

508-651-0016

204052

Classifieds

TIMESHARE FOR SALE RENAISSANCE

Week	room	price
26	507	\$3,500
26	543	\$5,300
40	105	\$5000
48/49	119	\$4,500
23	343	\$3,000
35	314	\$4,000
30	515	\$4,900
30	311	\$5,000
23	343	\$4,500
27	103	\$4,000
29	134	\$4,500
20&21	347	\$4,500
27	341	\$4,000

Contact Brian Cell: 593-0200

vr.realty@mac.com

203548

TIMESHARE

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week 40, oct. 3 start Eagle 3 ground floor unit 4106. 2 baths, lock off master b/r, granite kitchen, gated, elegant furnishing, washer/ dryer, steps to affinity pool and bar sleeps 4 sale \$4850 (equity value \$1050) rent \$1200

email: rmwjmw@aol.com

508-651-0016

207000

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DIVI PHOENIX WK 36,

1bdrm unit 205 starts on 09/05 \$4150wk34 studio rm 107 pool floor starts on 8/22 \$3500 and in Divi Village wk 35 rm 128 starts 9/5 \$2800

wk 37 unit 92 studio starts on 9/12 \$2800

Local till 8/29 cell: 565-9394 or US 508 - 6510016

E:mail rmwjmw@aol.com

206989

TIMESHARE FOR SALE

Divi Phoenix

Elegant five star property wk 34 pool side. Unit 107 Aug. 22 \$3500, 2nd wk 36 one bdr 1 bath, 9/5 starts \$4100 2nd wk 37 Studio 9/12 start \$3200 rm 504 king bed, queen, sofa email: rmwjmw@aol.com 508-651-0016

206999

DOCTOR ON DUTY Oranjestad



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NOORD	587-0009
STA. CRUZ	585-4710
SAVANETA	584-7000
SAN NICOLAS	584-5000
POLICE TIPLINE	11141
FIRE DEPT.	115
FIRE DEPT.	582-1108
HOSPITAL	527-4000
AMBULANCE	582-1234
SAN NICOLAS	
AMBULANCE	911

PHARMACY

Oranjestad: Eagle Tel: 587-9011
San Nicolas: Centro Medico Tel: 584-5794

INFORMATION	118
TAXI	582-5900
TAXI-TAS	587-5900
PROF. TAXI	588-0035
TAXI D.T.S.	587-2300
SERVICE ARUBA	583-3232

CRUISESHIP



September 2

Freewinds
Adventure of the Seas

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American Airline	582-2700
Avianca	588-0059
Aruba Airlines	583-8300
Jet Blue	588-2244
Surinam	582-7896
Tiara Air	588-4272
Venezolana	583-7674

Aruba Foundation
For those Visually Incapacitated

Tel: 582-5051

FUNDACION

Anti-Droga

Aruba

(FADA) Tel: 583-2999

FUNDACION

Respetami

Tel: 582-4433

Centro Diabetic Arubano

Tel: 524-8888

Narcotics Anonymous

Tel: 583-8989

QUOTA Club

Tel: 525-2672

Women in Difficulties
Foundation

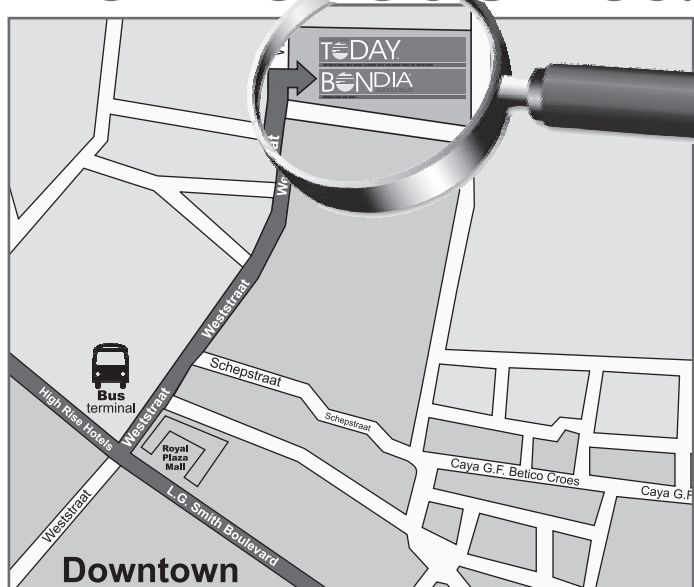
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Global warming carving changes into Alaska in fire and ice

SETH BORENSTEIN
DAN JOLING

Associated Press

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)

— Global warming is carving measurable changes into Alaska, and President Barack Obama is about to see it.

Obama leaves Monday for a three-day visit to the 49th state in which he will speak at a State Department climate change conference and become the first president to visit the Alaska Arctic. There, and in the sub-Arctic part of the state, he will see the damage caused by warming — damage that has been evident to scientists for years. More than 3.5 trillion tons of water have melted off of Alaska's glaciers since 1959, when Alaska first became a state, studies show — enough to fill more than 1 billion Olympic-sized pools.

The crucial, coast-hugging sea ice that protects villages from storms and makes hunting easier is dwindling in summer and is now absent each year a month longer than it was in the 1970s, other studies find. The Army Corps of Engineers identified 26 villages where erosion linked to sea ice loss threatens the communities' very existence.

Permafrost is thawing more often as the ground warms, so as the ground oozes, roads, pipelines



In this June 16, 2015 file photo, two Nikiski Fire Department firefighters walk on a road near a fire-ravaged forest left behind by the Card Street fire in Sterling, Alaska. **Associated Press**

and houses' foundations tilt and shift — sometimes enough to cause homes to be abandoned. In far northern Barrow, the upper part of the ground is 7 degrees Fahrenheit (4 degrees Celsius) warmer than it was in the late 1950s and getting closer to the melt point in the summer, data shows. And scientists fear the thawing permafrost will unleash large amounts of trapped greenhouse gases and speed up worldwide warming.

So far this year, more than 5.1 million acres (2.06 million hectares) in Alaska — an area the size of Connecticut and Rhode Island

combined — have burned in wildfires. In the first 10 years of statehood, Alaska averaged barely a quarter million acres (100,000 hectares) of wildfires yearly. The last 10 years have averaged 1.2 million acres (490,000 hectares).

"The state is changing and changing rapidly," said Fran Ulmer, chairwoman of the U.S. Arctic Research Commission and Alaska's former lieutenant governor.

And scientists say those things are happening — at least partly and probably mostly — because of another thing they can measure: Alaska's temperature. Alaska's yearly average temperature has jumped 3.3 degrees F since 1959 and the winter average has spiked 5 degrees F (3 degrees C) since statehood, according to federal records. Last year was the hottest on record and so far this year Alaska is a full degree warmer than last year.

Alaska "is sort of a bellwether," said John Walsh, chief

scientist of the International Arctic Research Center at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. "The changes are definitely happening and we're out in front of the rest of the country."

And what happens in Alaska isn't staying in Alaska, because weather changes in the Arctic trigger changes in the jet stream and reverberate down south, including the dreaded polar vortex escape that has brought sub-freezing temperatures to great expanses of North America in recent winters, said Martin Jeffries, an Arctic scientist for the U.S. Office of Naval Research.

Warming's effects seem to be speeding up. From 1959 to 1993, Alaska's glaciers lost 57 billion tons of ice a year, but that jumped to almost 83 billion tons a year since 1994, according to Anthony Arendt, who co-authored a study on the subject this July.

And while there may be many factors involved in glacier melt, all but about five of Alaska's 25,000 gla-

ciers are shrinking, said University of Alaska Fairbanks glacier expert Regine Hock. She's adamant: "That's related to climate change."

On the ocean, sea ice in the Arctic in the summer has shrunk by about one-third over three decades, leading to a loss of habitat for walrus and a threatened species listing for polar bears and their main prey, ringed seals. But in Alaska, what really hits hard is the loss of sea ice that's connected to the coast. That's the ice that protects villages from the worst of storms and allows both people and animals to hunt more at sea. But that type of ice is disappearing two weeks earlier in the summer and returns two weeks later when compared to the 1970s, said geophysicist Andy Mahoney at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

Meanwhile, Alaska's wildfires are "more frequent, they're hotter and they're more severe," said Glenn Juday, a professor emeritus of forest ecology at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Rapid and sustained warming has led to new patterns of insect outbreaks and new pest species affecting trees, he said. One of the chief problems is the spruce bark beetle, which thrive under warmer conditions. By 2006, aerial surveys had found spruce bark beetles had killed mature white spruce trees on 4.4 million acres (1.8 million hectares) following mild winters and hot summers. The acreage has increased since then, though not dramatically. Wildlife has changed, too. George Divoky and others have been tracking how early the black guillemot bird lays its first egg on the far north Cooper Islands. □



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President Obama to take wilderness trip with Bear Grylls

NEW YORK (AP) — Survival expert Bear Grylls has bagged his biggest celebrity yet for a walk in the wilderness — President Barack Obama. NBC and the White House said Monday the president will meet with Grylls during his visit to Alaska to discuss climate change, then spend some time in the wilderness. NBC said Grylls would give the president a crash course in survival techniques for an episode of his show, "Running Wild," to air later this year.



In this photo taken Sept. 16, 2011, Bear Grylls is seen in New York. Associated Press

Grylls has taped previous episodes of his show with the likes of Kate Winslet, Drew Brees, Kate Hudson and Channing Tatum. "I will not deny your suspicion that there may have been some suggestions put forward by the Bear Grylls team that were not approved by the Secret Service," said White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest. "We have been able to work with the Secret

Service to find a couple of interesting things" for the president to participate in, he said.

Earnest called it "an admittedly unorthodox but legitimately interesting way for the president to reach an audience that obviously cares about conservation."

Before joining NBC, Grylls starred in the Discovery Channel's "Man vs Wild" series. □

Horror movie director Wes Craven dies at age 76

DAISY NGUYEN
JAKE COYLE
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — It's hard enough to redefine a genre once in a career, but horror virtuoso Wes Craven managed to do it twice.

The prolific writer-director, who died Sunday at age 76, ushered in two distinct eras of suburban slashers, first in the 1980s with his iconic "Nightmare on Elm Street" and its indelible, razor-fingered villain Freddy Krueger. He did it again in the 1990s with the self-referential "Scream."

Both reintroduced the fringe genre to mainstream audiences and spawned successful franchises. Perhaps it was his perfectly askew interpretation of the medium that resonated with his nail-biting audiences.

"Horror films don't create fear," Craven said. "They release it."

Robert Englund, the actor who brought Freddy Krueger to life, wrote on Twitter that Craven was a "rare species ... brilliant, kind, gentle and very funny man. It's a sad day on Elm St and everywhere."

"Wes will forever be remembered for keeping genera-



This Oct. 16, 2010, file photo shows Wes Craven arriving at the Scream Awards in Los Angeles. Associated Press

tions of moviegoers on the edges of their seats, defining and redefining the horror genre with each passing decade," said Directors Guild of America President Paris Barclay.

Craven didn't solely deal in terror. He also directed the 1999 drama "Music of the Heart," which earned Meryl Streep an Oscar nomination. But his name and his legacy will always be synonymous with horror.

"He was a consummate filmmaker and his body of work will live on forever," said Weinstein Co. co-chairman Bob Weinstein, whose Dimension Films produced "Scream."

"He was truly an old school director," Craven's genre contemporary John Carpenter said on Twitter. "Wes was a great friend, fine director and good man."

Wesley Earl "Wes" Craven was born in Cleveland on Aug. 2, 1939, to a strict Baptist family. He earned a master's degree in philosophy and writing from Johns Hopkins University and briefly taught as a college professor in Pennsylvania and New York, but his start in movies was in pornography, where he worked under pseudonyms.

Craven's feature debut under his own name was 1972's "The Last House on the Left," a horror film inspired by Ingmar Bergman's "The Virgin Spring," about teenage girls abducted and taken into the woods. Made for just \$87,000, the film, though

graphic enough to be censored in many countries, was a hit. Roger Ebert said it was "about four times as good as you'd expect."

"Nightmare on Elm Street," however, catapulted Craven to far greater renown in 1984. The Ohio-set film is about teenagers, including a then unknown Johnny Depp, who are stalked in their dreams. Craven wrote and directed, starting a franchise that has carried on, most recently with a 2010 remake.

The concept, Craven said, came from his own youth in Cleveland — specifically an Elm Street cemetery and a homeless man that inspired Krueger's raged look.

Along with John Carpenter's "Halloween," "Nightmare on Elm Street" defined a horror tradition where helpless teenagers are preyed upon by knife-wielding, deformed killers in cruel morality tales. Usually promiscuous girls were the first to go.

"There is something about the American dream, the sort of Disneyesque dream, if you will, of the beautifully trimmed front lawn, the white picket fence, mom and dad and their happy children, God-fearing and doing good whenever they can," Craven once said. "And the flip side of it, the kind of anger and the sense of outrage that comes from discovering that that's not the truth of the matter, that gives American horror films, in some ways, kind of an additional rage." □

John Legend, David Bowie to write for 'SpongeBob Musical'

MARK KENNEDY
AP Drama Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — There's a "SpongeBob" musical in the works but the music is no kiddie stuff.

Nickelodeon said Monday it will produce the world premiere of "The SpongeBob Musical" in Chicago next summer with original songs from John Legend, David Bowie, Cyndi Lauper, Dirty Projectors, The Flaming Lips, T.I., Plain White T's, They Might Be Giants, Lady Antebellum, Panic! At the Disco, and Aerosmith's Steven Tyler and Joe Perry.

It is co-conceived and directed by Tina Landau

with a book by Kyle Jarrow and music supervision by Tom Kitt.

The show will play Chicago's Oriental Theatre starting June 7 with an eye to Broadway.

Producers call it "a rousing tale of a simple sea sponge who faces the unfathomable. It's a celebration of unbridled hope, unexpected heroes, and pure theatrical invention." Kids' material has made the leap to stage before, including "The Addams Family," "Annie" and "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown." And writer, director and producer Adam McKay is currently



In a Jan. 19, 2009 file photo, SpongeBob SquarePants poses for a portrait at the Gibson Guitar Lounge during the Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah. Associated Press

working on an "Archie" musical. □

Afghan Taliban offer leader's biography amid power struggle

LYNNE O'DONNELL

Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)

— Defying warnings from Washington and the fury of Afghanistan's government, Pakistani authorities are turning a blind eye to a meeting of hundreds of Taliban supporters in a city near the Afghan border aimed at resolving a dispute over the group's leadership following the death of figurehead Mullah Mohammad Omar.

The gathering in the Pakistani city of Quetta, where the Taliban's leadership has been largely based since they were pushed from power by a U.S.-led invasion in 2001, has drawn some 1,000 Taliban adherents who have openly descended on the city for a "unity shura," a meeting intended to resolve the leadership crisis and reunite the group, whose divisions have been publicly aired since Mullah Omar's death was revealed in late July.

Afghan President Ashraf



In this Saturday, Aug. 1, 2015 file photo, an Afghan newspaper headlines pictures of the new leader of the Afghan Taliban, Mullah Akhtar Mansoor, left, and former leader Mullah Mohammad Omar, in Kabul, Afghanistan.

Associated Press

Ghani has accused Pakistan of harboring groups that are waging war on his country. His deputy spokesman, Zafar Hashemi told The Associated Press that Pakistan was failing to take action against "those groups holding gatherings

in public and declaring war against the Afghan people," a reference to the Taliban meetings in Quetta.

The Taliban's struggle to overthrow the Kabul government is nearing its 14th year. Thousands of U.S. and NATO soldiers, along with many more thousands of Afghan civilians, troops and police have been killed in the fighting, which has intensified following the drawdown last year of most foreign combat troops. The Taliban are clearly testing the Afghan forces as they take on the insurgency alone, though their fighters have made little significant progress on the battlefield.

The leadership struggle became public after the Afghan government announced in late July that Mullah Omar had been dead since April 2013. His deputy, Mullah Akhtar Mansoor, was declared his successor, but Mullah Omar's family objected, saying the vote to elect the new leader was not representative of the group. The unity shura — essentially a dispute resolution committee — was established in early August to deal with the crisis and shura leader Ahmad Rabbani says its decision could be reached in days.

In an indication of what is

at stake, the Taliban published a biography Monday of Mansoor in a clear attempt by his backers to shore up his support among the Taliban leaders, religious scholars, battlefield commanders and rank-and-file supporters as deliberations come to a close. They have met at various spots around Quetta — in Chaman near the Afghan border and in tribal areas of Pakistan's Balochistan province, troubled by its own insurgency.

With impressive organizational skills, the Quetta-based Taliban have taken on the task of hosting hundreds of visitors from Afghanistan, billeting them in madrassas, mosques and private homes, ensuring they are fed and that transport is arranged so they can get to their meetings on time. Many attendees, including religious scholars and commanders, traveled from remote regions of Afghanistan. Many of the fighting men have already departed, shura leaders said, having made their preferences clear.

Rabbani said that Mansoor has yet to inform the shura that he will adhere to whatever decision is made, although Mullah Omar's brother, Manan, and son, Yaqub, have done so. Mansoor has been given until Tuesday to state his

position, Rabbani said, adding: "We don't need his permission to announce our decision, and have made contingency plans for whether he says he will follow our decision or not." He said the committee's decision on the leadership could come as early as Wednesday.

The meetings appear to have been untroubled by the Pakistani authorities, who habitually deny that they sponsor the Taliban or other terrorist groups, such as the Haqqani Network whose leader, Sirajuddin Haqqani, is one of Mansoor's deputies.

"Yes, our officials have contacts with them. Our officials have ability to contact and bring them to the negotiation table. That doesn't mean that our intelligence agencies have control on each and every thing," said Pakistani security analyst Zahid Hussain.

Ghani's condemnation of Pakistan's support for the Taliban boiled over in early August after a series of deadly attacks on the capital, Kabul, that left 50 people dead and hundreds wounded. After almost a year of trying to mend fences with Islamabad, the Afghan leader went on live TV and accused Pakistan of being the source of violence in his country. Relations between the neighbors have suffered, with an Afghan delegation returning empty-handed from a visit to Pakistan meant to hammer out a way of dealing with the insurgency.

"The decisions the Pakistani government will be making in the next few weeks will significantly affect bilateral relations for the next decades," Ghani said in his TV address. "We can no longer tolerate watching our people bleeding in a war exported and imposed on us from outside."

Peace talks between Ghani's administration and the Taliban, which had been supported by Pakistan, were indefinitely postponed after the announcement of Mullah Omar's death. □

Kanye for 2020? White House welcomes rapper's political bid

ABOARD AIR FORCE ONE

(AP) — Kanye West for 2020? The White House says it is anticipating the rapper's potential bid for president.

West claimed he would run for president while accepting the Michael Jackson Video Vanguard Award at the 2015 MTV Video Music Awards Sunday.

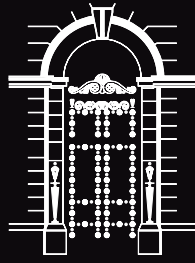
White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest says of the announcement that he looks "forward to seeing what slogan he chooses to embroider on his campaign hat." Earnest was traveling aboard Air Force One with the president to Alaska.

This isn't the first time the outspoken Chicago rapper has dabbled in talk of politics. West is noted for criti-



Kanye West accepts the video vanguard award at the MTV Video Music Awards at the Microsoft Theater on Sunday, Aug. 30, 2015, in Los Angeles. Associated Press

cism of President George W. Bush and the federal government's response after Hurricane Katrina. He has also compared the world's fascination with his wife Kim Kardashian to that of the first lady. □



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